

CITY OF LIVERPOOL.



EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

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REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

FOR THE YEAR


1944

BY

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### Part-time Assistant School Medical Officers.

ELIZABETH P. DUNCAN, M.B., Ch.B. (*From 15/2/44.*)

CATHERINE S. ELLAMS, M.B., Ch.B. (*From 4/5/44.*)

JOAN S. RYAN, M.B., Ch.B. (*From 24/1/44.*)

### Senior School Dental Officer.

T. H. PARSONS, L.D.S., R.C.S.

### Whole-time Assistant School Dental Officers.

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F. C. LITTLETON, L.D.S.	†L. C. WINSTANLEY, L.D.S.
J. A. WOOD, L.D.S.	

\* Temporary Officers.

† With H.M. Forces.

### **Part-time Assistant School Dental Officers.**

J. A. BELL, L.D.S.

J. P. BLACOE, L.D.S.

MYLES D. HELY, L.D.S. (*From 23/10/44.*)

H. W. MARTIN, L.D.S.

A. E. WATSON, L.D.S.

MARION LEVY, L.D.S. (*12/6/44 to 12/8/44.*)

### **Part-time Specialist Officers.**

D. RANKINE, M.B., Ch.B. (*Oculist*).

(*Also Oculist for Crown Street School for the Deaf.*)

COURTENAY YORKE, M.D., F.R.C.S. (*Surgeon i/c of Aural Scheme,  
Aurist for Crown Street School for the Deaf.*)

B. L. McFARLAND, M.D., M.Ch.(Orth.), F.R.C.S.  
(*Orthopædic Surgeon*).

F. C. DWYER, M.B., M.Ch.(Orth.), F.R.C.S. (*Orthopædic Surgeon*).

F. HOPKINS, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O. (*Certifying Officer for  
Mentally Defectives*).

### **School Nurses, Etc.**

*Superintendent*: Miss M. L. NICKSON.

*Supervisor*: Miss B. M. SPELLER.

*Temporary Supervisor*: Miss W. K. POOLE.

Also:—50 Permanent nurses.

24 Temporary nurses.

7 Auxiliary nurses.

4 Part-time auxiliary nurses.

2 Orthopædic nurses.

14 Clinic helpers (includes 10 part-time).

6 Dental attendants.

### **Chief Clerk.**

MR. F. J. GELDART.

Also:—34 Clerks.

## **CITY OF LIVERPOOL.**

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### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE.**

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#### **REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER to the Education Authority for the Year ended 31st December, 1944.**

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##### **Introduction.**

1. The Medical Officer submits, herewith, his report on the work of the School Medical Service during the year 1944.

2. At the end of the year, 8 school medical officers and 7 school dental officers had been called up since the commencement of the war. Three school dental officers, who had been seconded to reception areas, returned during the latter half of the year.

With the considerably reduced medical staff available, which was equivalent to approximately 10 during the year, it was still quite impossible to carry out the routine medical examinations of the three age groups, and the intermediate group was therefore again omitted, and in order to utilise the medical staff available to the best advantage, children in the intermediate age group were seen in the first place by the nurses, who referred to the doctors any cases which they considered required a medical examination, special attention being given to children shewing evidence of malnutrition and debility.

Although the principle of examining the entrants and leavers as routine cases was continued, it was not even possible to examine all the children due in these two groups, although over 5,000 more cases were examined in 1944 than in the previous year. In order to do this, however, school medical officers were unable to devote as much time to the re-inspection of children.



3. The medical and dental activities on behalf of the special schools children, and those in nursery classes, have been maintained, and special efforts have been made in dealing with scabies.

4. Whilst the scabies epidemic has been a serious matter, it is gratifying to report that there is now evidence of a definite decline in the number of cases as shewn by the fact that whereas in 1943, 11,329 new cases were reported, the number reported during 1944 was 6,729, a reduction of nearly 5,000 cases. Consequently it has been possible to close three of the clinics specially opened to deal with this disease.

5. The nutrition of the children appears to have been maintained at a good standard in spite of over five years of war, and there is no doubt that the dining centres, school meals and milk, as well as the rationing scheme have had, in general, a beneficial effect upon the health of the children. Bearing on this, an interesting comparison of average weights for the year 1944 has been made with those of the year immediately before the war (1938), and the quinquennial period 1927-31. The findings are given on page 10.

6. Mr. McFarland, one of the Orthopædic Surgeons, draws attention to many of the school children wearing shoes too small. The wearing of such shoes causes the feet to grow deformed, particularly the great toe, leading to much disability in later life. Although not limited to war-time, this unwise procedure has greatly increased during the latter war years.

7. Much inconvenience was experienced in connection with the scheme for the provision of spectacles, which was occasioned by the difficulty which the Committee's opticians met with in obtaining the necessary supply of lenses.

8. The work of ascertainment of mentally defectives is still seriously in arrears, the reason for this being that whereas at the commencement of the war, there were available for this work five experienced certifying officers approved by the Ministry of Education, there are at present only two.



9. The Medical Officer is indebted to the Director of Education for information supplied with regard to certain sections of this Report relating, in particular, to the work in connection with the Special Schools, Provision of Meals, and Juvenile Employment.

10. The statistical tables required by the Ministry of Education concerning the work carried out appear in Appendix "A" and Appendix "B".

### NUTRITION.

11. Statistics relating to the clinical assessment of nutrition by school medical officers are shewn in Appendix "A" on page 41 of this report. The percentages are as follows:—

Excellent nutrition ...	...	...	6.68%
Normal nutrition ...	...	...	92.10%
Slightly subnormal nutrition	...	...	1.20%
Bad nutrition ...	...	...	.02%

These percentages shew little variation from those for the two previous years.

12. As has been pointed out in previous reports, there is no reliable standard which is easily applicable for practical purposes whereby an accurate scientific assessment of nutrition can be made. In an endeavour to form an opinion, the matter was approached from two points of view.

- i. From the opinions expressed by the medical officers as a result of their examinations of the children.
- ii. From an analysis of the physical measurements of the children, and comparing the measurements with those of previous years.

13. For the first method of approach school medical officers were asked to express their general opinions of the nutrition of the children, and the following are extracts from their reports.

#### DR. KEITH.

"In my opinion the general health of school children has not suffered greatly, and their nutrition is being well maintained. They do not appear to be shewing any bad effects of over five years of

war-time diet. More children than ever are having school meals, and almost all of them are having milk in school, and I find large numbers of parents, whatever their circumstances, are giving their children cod liver oil or halibut oil.”

DR. LACEY.

“ On the whole the nutrition of the children in all types of schools has been fairly well maintained. During the past years, a few more cases of malnutrition than in the preceding years have come to one’s notice, but the majority appear to be due to lack of rest. Most mothers are keen on the subject of nutrition, but it is often difficult to make them understand that it is not the amount of food eaten that helps to build a strong, healthy physique, but the amount digested and assimilated, and that a tired body is not capable of doing either of these to the fullest extent.”

DR. CHANNON.

“ Once more I feel able to express the opinion that there is no evidence of severe or widespread malnutrition. Most of the cases I meet can be traced to parental neglect or ignorance or weakness, and the glaring factor is lack of sleep.”

From these reports it will be seen that medical officers are of opinion that the nutrition of the children on the whole has been well maintained in spite of over five years of war.

14. For the purpose of considering nutrition from the aspect of physical measurements, comparisons have been made of the average weights for boys and girls at the ages of 5, 8, and 12 years for three periods, viz.:—

- (a) The quinquennial period 1927-31.
- (b) The year immediately before the War (1938).
- (c) The year under review (1944).

The results of this investigation are shewn diagrammatically and provide an interesting study. Two sets of diagrams are given, namely:

Diagram A giving the comparative weights for children from typically poor schools, and Diagram B for children from the schools as a whole, which include schools in good, fair and poor neighbourhoods.



# Diagram A

(weight in lbs.)

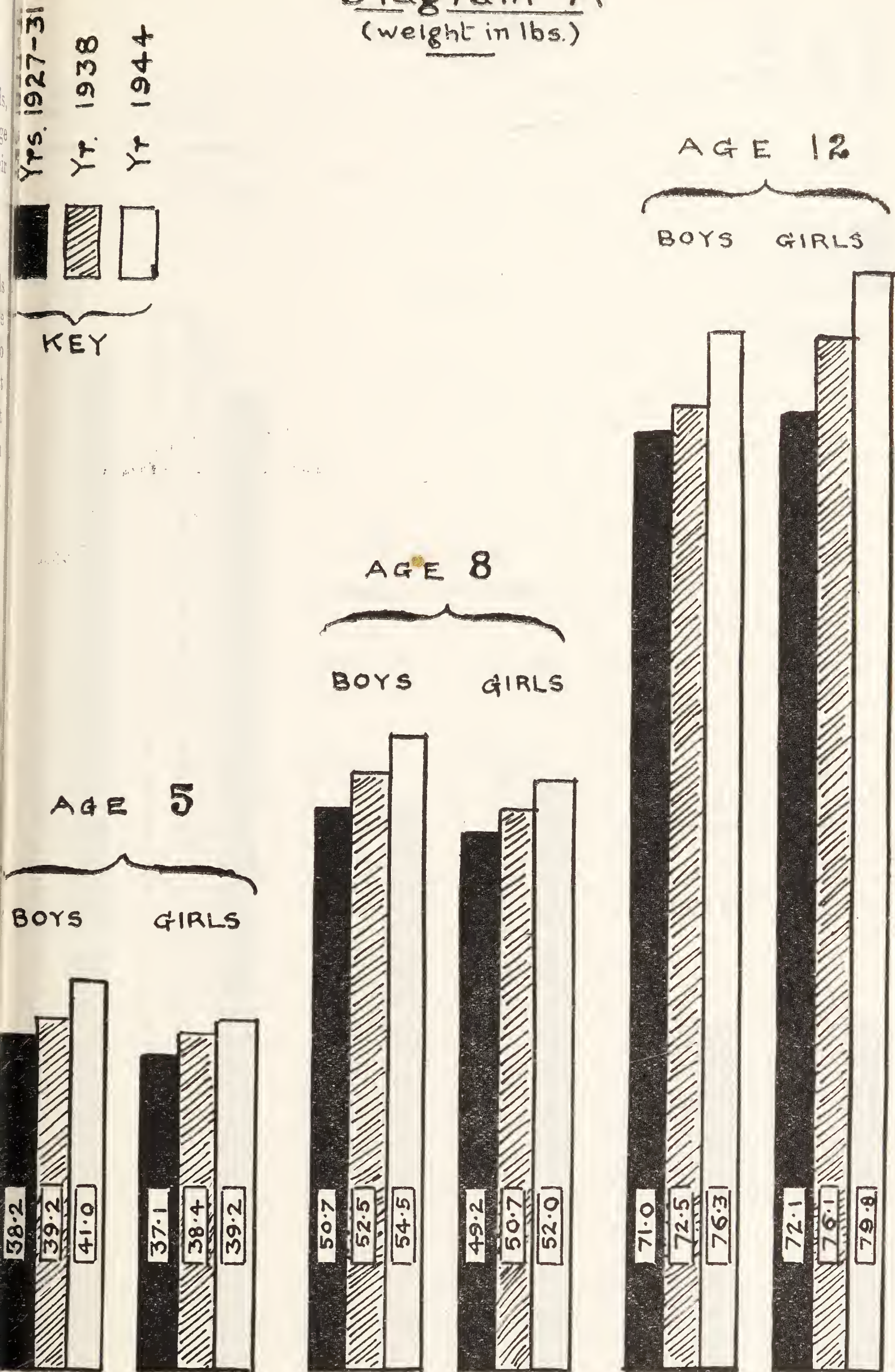


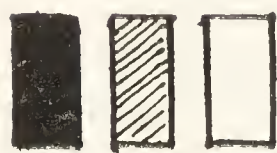
Diagram shewing the average weights of boys and girls attending sample schools in **poor neighbourhoods** for the year 1944, compared with the quinquennial period 1927-31, and the year 1938.



# Diagram B

(weight in lbs)

Yrs. 1927-31  
Yr. 1938  
Yr. 1944



KEY

AGE 12

BOYS

GIRLS

AGE 8

BOYS

GIRLS

AGE 5

BOYS

GIRLS

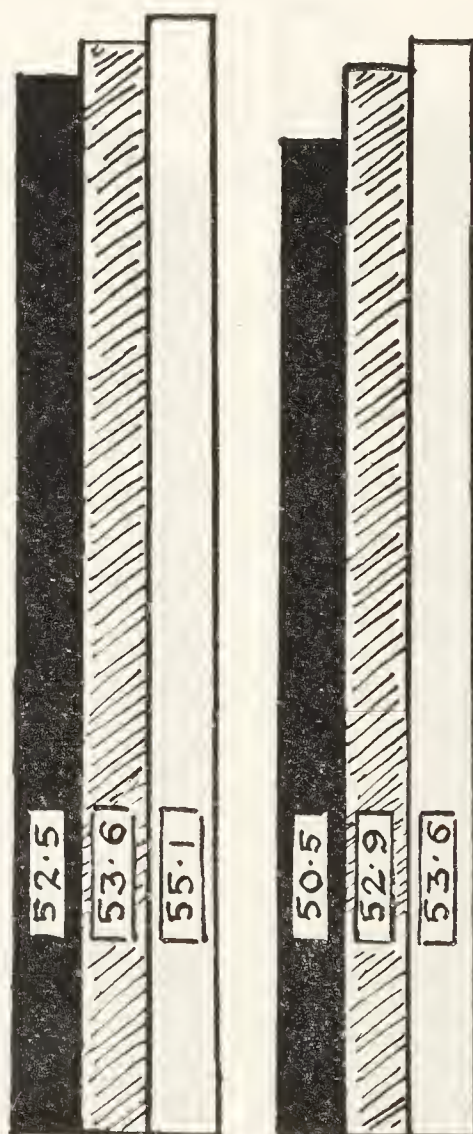
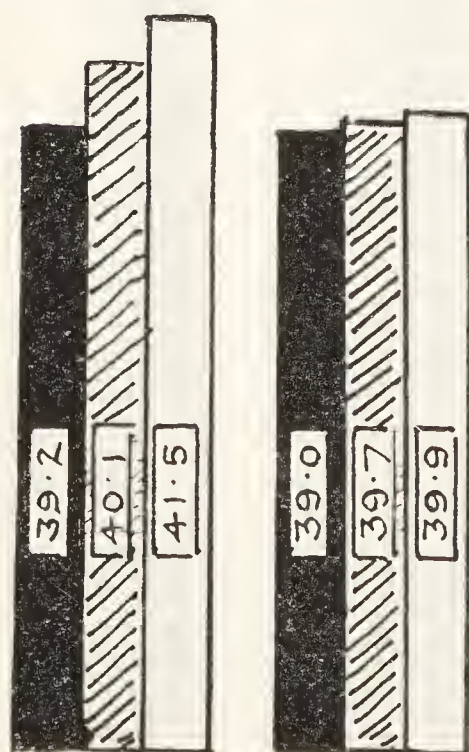


Diagram shewing the average weights of boys and girls attending sample schools in **poor, fair and good neighbourhoods** for the year 1944, compared with the quinquennial period 1927-31, and the year 1938.



In every case it will be seen that there has been a progressive increase in the average weight for each of the age groups.

These gains made between the years 1938 and 1944 for children of the age of 5, 8, and 12 in the schools as a whole and in the schools in the poorer neighbourhood, are shewn in the following table:—

**TABLE I.**

Type of Schools.	Age 5.		Age 8.		Age 12.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Schools as a whole (good, fair and poor) .....	1·4	0·2	1·5	0·7	1·3	1·1
Poor Schools .....	1·8	0·8	2·0	1·3	3·8	3·7

It will be seen from this Table that in each age group there has been a greater increase of average weight in the case of the children of the poorer neighbourhoods as compared with the children as a whole (which group includes the children attending the “ good ”, “ fair ” and “ poor ” schools). Such a result is not unexpected since rationing and school meals have definitely led to a considerable improvement in the diets of many of the children, particularly those in the poorer areas. Whilst average weights are no criterion alone in forming an opinion, they are nevertheless indicative, when considered along with the clinical assessments of nutrition.

### **PROVISION OF MEALS AND MILK.**

15. Dinners were provided for elementary school children daily except Sundays and Christmas Day.

During the year the output of two-course dinners for school children has gradually increased. These meals have been supplied from the Central Kitchen, four auxiliary kitchens, the electrically-equipped kitchen in Gateacre, two British Restaurants and eight Ministry of Food Cooking Depots.

16. Progress in connection with the School Meals Service has been handicapped owing to the lack of accommodation for this purpose in

the schools and the difficulty of obtaining suitable sites for the erection of prefabricated huts for kitchens and canteens. 42 additional school canteens have been opened during the year, making a total of 162 school canteens and dining centres in operation.

The number of dinners, free or on payment, supplied to children during the year was 5,286,983 (an increase of 1,310,172 on the previous year's figure).

The number of individual children who were provided with dinners increased from 22,983 in January, 1944, to 26,223 in December, 1944.

Details regarding this service at various intervening dates were as follows:—

	Jan., 1944.	June, 1944.	Dec., 1944.
No. of children present in school .....	94,884	94,276	93,934
Free meals .....	8,202	9,323	9,320
On full or part payment .....	14,781	14,973	16,903
Total No. of children supplied .....	22,983	24,296	26,223
Percentage of children in school receiving dinners ...	24·28%	25·78%	27·93%

The total number of free milk meals supplied during the year was 3,703,710 (an increase of 795,909).

The numbers of children receiving milk at various dates during intervening periods of the year were as follows:—

	Jan., 1944.	June, 1944.	Dec., 1944.
Free— $\frac{1}{3}$ -pint .....	12,235	13,200	13,932
Free— $\frac{2}{3}$ -pint .....	625	753	699
On payment— $\frac{1}{3}$ -pint .....	45,327	44,470	45,203
On payment— $\frac{2}{3}$ -pint or more .....	19,656	18,586	18,205
Total No. of children .....	77,843	76,991	78,039
Percentage of children in school receiving milk ...	82·04%	81·66%	83·07%

### MINOR AILMENTS.

17. During the year, 34,515 cases were treated at the minor ailments clinics, necessitating 295,043 attendances having to be made by the children, the average number of attendances being 8.5 per child.

18. The number of cases reported as ringworm of the scalp was 35, a decrease compared with 49 during the previous year. Of these, 31 were treated by X-rays at the Belmont Road Hospital and 4 otherwise.

The number of cases of impetigo treated at the minor ailments clinics was 1,940, being an increase of 6 per cent. over the number of cases treated in the previous year.

So far as blepharitis and conjunctivitis are concerned the numbers treated were 645 and 796 respectively, compared with 673 and 842 in the previous year.

19. Scabies shewed a further decrease during the year, 6,729 new cases amongst school children being reported, compared with 11,329 in 1943. All contacts were followed-up, and as a result 1,470 pre-school children and 1,891 adults were diagnosed as suffering from scabies and were treated at the special clinics.

Three treatment centres were closed during the year leaving 9 centres, equipped with 22 baths. On an average 22 temporary and auxiliary nurses were engaged whole-time upon this work.

The medicament now being used in the treatment of scabies is the B.P. benzyl benzoate emulsion.

The school medical officers who supervise the work at these clinics carried out approximately 11,000 examinations.

### DEFECTIVE VISION.

20. The number of children with some defects of vision found at the routine examinations of the third age group was 1,743 (17.2 per cent.),



but only 674 of these (6.6 per cent.) required treatment. Among the entrants 643 were suspected of having defective vision, 546 of whom shewed evidence of squint. The routine testing of the "Intermediate Group" children was not carried out, but such children who were suspected of having defective eyesight were brought to the notice of the school medical officers by the teachers or nurses, and as a result, 922 children were tested, 503 of whom were found to require treatment. In addition to the cases found amongst the children in the routine age groups, 1,033 were seen as special cases.

The number of new cases treated under the Committee's scheme was 2,085. The number re-examined at the clinics was 2,654. These numbers do not represent the total number of clinic attendances, since many children with amblyopia received intensive treatment, attending weekly, or oftener, over extended periods.

Under the arrangements made with the Hospitals and Port Health Committee for the treatment of squint in pre-school children, 280 children were examined by the oculist and glasses were provided in 204 of these cases.

### **EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CONDITIONS.**

21. The Aural Clinics have been functioning regularly throughout the year and attendances have been satisfactory.

22. The chronic suppurative lesion of the middle ear is a major problem at the clinics. As there is often little pain, parents do not realise the seriousness of the disease, and the ear may be neglected.

In cases not requiring operative treatment the main line of treatment at the clinics is a thorough toilet of the ear. This may include removal or destruction of granulation tissue to allow satisfactory drainage. The application of sulphuric acid on the tip of a moderately heated cautery



needle to small masses of granulation tissue has given good results in some cases. As for antiseptics, experience at the clinics has shewn that none of them take the place of thorough cleansing of the diseased ear, though they may prove very useful and soothing aids. Where there is a scanty discharge with thickening of the meatal walls and much epithelial material, a light gauze pack soaked in Mandl's paint is found helpful.

As the prevention of the chronic otorrhœa is the aim of the school medical service, it is felt that otitis media in the acute stages cannot be too carefully treated.

23. Propaganda of the fact that a running ear is due to an abscess of the middle ear is badly needed. If all cases of acute otitis media could be admitted to hospital, where the nose and throat condition could also be investigated and any defects found treated, it would in the long run cause less loss of health and it would, moreover, result in less loss of education which is necessitated by daily treatment at the clinics of a chronic otorrhœa.

24. The constant nasal catarrh so frequently seen in the clinics is another, and associated, problem. In many cases, the tonsils and adenoids are not found to be the cause. Local treatment, e.g. diastolisation and drops, is given but there is often, it seems, a constitutional or social cause for the persistence of the condition, and in these cases, an endeavour is made to improve the general health by advising the parent about clothing, especially footwear, diet, nasal hygiene, etc.

25. During the current year, 44 cases were considered by the Surgeon to require radical mastoid operations, and these were accordingly referred to Alder Hey Hospital.

26. The following Table gives the types and numbers of cases treated at these clinics:—

**TABLE 2.**  
**Aural Clinics.**

Number of children who attended for examination and treatment ... 1,998.  
Total number of attendances at the clinics ... .. 6,991.

Defect.	Total.	Dry or Healed.	Im- proved. or I.S.Q.	No treatment given.	Still under treatment	Failed to complete. treatment.	Referred to Hospital or own Doctor.	Referred to M.A.C. or other Clinics.
Acute Otitis Media	306	203	—	1	29	53	14	6
Suppurating Otitis Media ...	579	285	—	57	91	121	10	15
Chronic Suppurating Otitis Media ...	276	45	—	—	74	105	51	—
Deafness without Otorrhœa ...	205	—	48	36	60	53	—	1
Otalgia and other conditions ...	198	66	11	54	17	24	5	21
Nasal Defects ...	434	—	103	67	45	117	94	8
<b>TOTALS ...</b>	<b>1,998</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>51</b>

50 Minor operations were also performed at these clinics for the removal of polypi, etc.

27. At the routine examinations of the public elementary school children, the number found to require treatment for unhealthy tonsils or adenoids was 596, which represents a percentage of 2.7 of the children examined.

Apart from the cases discovered at the routine examinations, 201 other children were found to require treatment for one or both of these conditions. In addition, amongst the intermediate age group, who were surveyed in the first place by nurses, 186 of these children were found on examination by the school medical officers to require treatment. In cases where the school medical officers were doubtful whether or not to recommend operative treatment, the children were referred to the clinic for the opinion of the specialist. Out of 893 of such cases Mr. York advised an operation in 566 (63 per cent.) of them.

Since the outbreak of war, the treatment of tonsils and adenoids has presented many difficulties owing to lack of accommodation.

28. The Committee's clinic in Vauxhall Road was closed in September, 1939, and was subsequently demolished by enemy action, but in 1940 arrangements were made for school children to be treated at Alder Hey Hospital. Owing to various causes, however, a regular allocation of beds could not be placed at the disposal of the Committee and as the number of beds available was totally inadequate to meet the number of applications received, additional accommodation was obtained at Broadgreen Hospital, where, from January, 1943, to June, 1944, approximately ten cases were operated upon each week.

At the end of June, however, owing to military requirements, both Alder Hey and Broadgreen had to suspend all arrangements for treating tonsils and adenoids, but in October, Alder Hey were able to resume operating and continued to allocate a number of beds each week to the end of the year.

The operations performed at the two hospitals during the year were as follows:—

	Alder Hey Hospital.	Broadgreen Hospital.	Total.
Tonsils only .....	27	—	27
Adenoids only .....	13	1	14
Tonsils and Adenoids .....	75	225	300
TOTALS .....	115	226	341

The children were admitted on the day prior to operation and discharged two or three days after their treatment.

### DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

29. The following Table shews the work carried out under the dental scheme for children attending the Public Elementary Schools:—



TABLE 3.

	1942	1943	1944
Number of children examined in school ... ..	49,152	51,422	72,946
Number of children requiring treatment ... ..	37,897 (77·1%)	36,515 (71·0%)	47,418 (65·0%)
Number of cases accepting treatment under the Dental Scheme ... ..	22,261 (58·7%)	20,206 (55·3%)	24,488 (51·6%)
Number of cases treated ... ..	19,317	18,723	22,747
Number of schools concerned ... ..	120	105	154

30. No additional officers were called up for service with the Armed Forces during the year. On the other hand, owing to the return to Liverpool of such a large proportion of the school children who had been evacuated to safer areas, it was felt that the retention of the seconded Liverpool dental officers in the reception areas was no longer justified and, accordingly, the three dental officers who had been thus seconded were recalled, by arrangement with the receiving authorities, in May, July and August, respectively.

Miss M. Levy was appointed as a temporary whole-time assistant school dental officer in August.

31. In consequence of the larger number of dental officers whose services thus become available, 4,000 more children were treated than in the preceding year. A particularly gratifying result was that the number of permanent teeth able to be saved by fillings represented an increase of 30 per cent. on the previous year.

In pursuance of the policy of not attempting with an adequate staff to achieve the impossible aim of offering treatment to all, only 72,000 children were dentally inspected out of a total of well over 100,000 elementary school children in the city. The parents of 48 per cent. of the children inspected and found to require treatment did not accept the offer, a fact which strengthens the belief of those who consider that such refusals in the past have been due much more to the



apathy of parents than to their inability to pay the small fee required by the Committee or their unwillingness to make application for free treatment on the grounds of poverty.

32. Much, therefore, remains to be done both in the education of the parents in the need for dental treatment and in the provision of a staff adequate to deal with all the children.

It would appear, however, that until such times as the services of dental surgeons in adequate numbers become readily available, there can be no purpose in seriously attempting a system of dental propaganda to educate the public. The first consideration should undoubtedly be the provision of comprehensive facilities for all those parents who appreciate the service and are willing to co-operate, and later on propaganda could be backed up by records of actual achievements.

33. A satisfactory school dental service is an urgent national need, and the report of the Teviot Committee on dentistry, which was published by the Ministry of Health in November, 1944, makes this fact only too clear. This Committee has had access to the records of medical examinations of recruits to the Services and has thus been able to discover the dental condition of a cross-section of the community which is of particular interest to those engaged in the school dental services, viz., the entrants to the Forces at the age of 18. Of these adolescents 98 per cent. of males and 90 per cent. of females were found to be dentally unsound. These figures are a striking example of the necessity for an adequate and well-supported national school dental service. In the absence of an adequate staff, there appears little to justify the present system whereby so much of the time of the dental staff is taken up in inspecting and offering treatment to children whose parents refuse to co-operate, to the detriment of other children whose parents are anxious for them to obtain treatment. It appears, on the other hand, that until such time as more staff becomes available, not only for the treatment of all willing children, but also to provide the propaganda measures which will be required to overcome parental apathy, steps should be taken strictly to limit the facilities of the dental service to

those parents who are anxious to take advantage of it. To effect this it would be necessary to obtain a promise of co-operation from parents *before* the annual inspection takes place at the schools and thereafter to confine dental examination and arrangements for treatment to those children from whose parents this promise has been obtained.

### ORTHOPÆDIC SCHEME.

34. Each of the three orthopædic clinics, at Walton, Dingle and Everton, showed a slight increase in attendances over the previous year.

There were 1,713 children under supervision, 864 of these being new cases, of which number 275 were seen at Walton Clinic, 332 at the Everton Road Clinic, and 257 at the Dingle House Clinic. Altogether these children made 10,134 attendances, either for examination by the surgeon or for massage or exercises, the average number of attendances per case for massage or remedial exercise being 11.4.

Out of 22 cases recommended for hospital treatment, 14 had been admitted by the end of the year.

#### Summary of Hospital Treatment, 1944.

Reduction of congenital dislocation of hip	...	...	1
Correction of deformities of feet or toes	...	...	8
Tenotomies or stretching	...	...	1
Treatment of torticollis by operation	...	...	3
Other treatment	...	...	1
			<hr/> 14 <hr/>

35. The Child Welfare Association assisted the parents in obtaining new apparatus, surgically altered boots, repairs, etc., in 863 instances, whilst 218 pairs of boots for wearing with apparatus were supplied. The Association likewise assisted the work by supplying cod liver oil and arranging for convalescent treatment, and their visitors also made many visits to parents in the case of 197 children regarding their non-attendance at clinics.

36. The accompanying table shews, in detail, the work carried out at the clinics:—

TABLE 4.

## Cases dealt with under the Orthopædic Scheme during 1944.

Defect	Cases seen at Surgeons' Visits.					Massage and Remedial Exercises Department.									
	No. of Cases		No. of Attendances			No. of Cases.		No. of Attendances.							
	Clinic		Clinic		Clinic.		Clinic.								
	Dingle House	Walton	Everton Road	TOTAL.	Dingle House	Walton	Everton Road	TOTAL.	Dingle House.	Walton.	Everton Road.	TOTAL.			
Infantile Paralysis	4	5	18	27	7	13	35	55	2	3	14	19	69	250	388
Birth Palsy ...	1	—	1	2	4	—	2	6	1	—	—	1	14	—	14
Spastic Paralysis	17	11	21	49	29	24	45	98	8	6	20	34	113	433	685
Rickets ...	74	57	72	203	98	73	92	263	1	6	3	10	13	70	117
Talipes ...	—	9	15	24	—	15	24	39	—	2	6	8	—	60	139
Spinal Curvature	8	7	13	28	16	10	16	42	6	4	9	19	84	120	266
Torticollis ...	4	5	9	18	6	10	17	33	2	2	6	10	32	32	69
Flat Feet ...	237	229	342	808	384	345	449	1178	127	104	165	396	1239	1096	3983
Other deformities	44	45	47	136	59	69	72	200	13	16	23	52	91	313	619
Other defects ...	99	126	124	349	136	179	168	483	38	47	40	125	335	687	1388
No orthopædic defect found ...	10	17	42	69	10	16	43	69	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	498	511	704	1713	749	754	963	2466	198	190	286	674	1939	3293	7668



37. Mr. McFarland, one of the Surgeons-in-charge of the clinics, reports as follows:—

“ The clinics are working very well, and I think that the patients who have been evacuated have been very well looked after. I think that a very large proportion of the cases now attending are either general postural defects or postural defects of the feet. I also notice that there is an understandable tendency in war-time for children to be kept in shoes which have, owing to the natural growth of the feet, become too small. There is no doubt in my mind that the causation or aggravation of defects in the arch or in the big toe joints is directly resulting from the discrepancy between the size of the foot and the size of the shoe.”

### **TUBERCULOSIS.**

38. At the routine inspections in the schools there were discovered 1 definite case of pulmonary tuberculosis, 9 cases of tuberculous glands, and 7 cases of other forms of tuberculosis, a total of 17 cases, or .08 per cent., among the routine cases examined, being a reduction compared with the previous year of .15 per cent.

There were also seen at the inspection clinics, or as special cases at the schools, 10 definite or suspected pulmonary cases, and 18 cases of other forms of tuberculosis.

All the cases of actual or suspected tuberculosis discovered by the school medical officers were referred to the tuberculosis officers for examination. The number of references so made was 77, whilst the Tuberculosis Department supplied information with reference to 594 school children who had been reported from other sources as possible cases of tuberculosis. Of these, 468 were new cases for the year and 360 were reported as non-tuberculous.

39. Dr. Jackson, one of the tuberculosis medical officers, in his report stresses the importance of keeping under close observation all children who have been tubercular contacts. He states: “ It should be noted that these children are often in good health and the necessity



for repeated examination is not always appreciated. Negative clinical, X-ray, and Mantoux tests merely show that the child has not yet become infected by the Tubercle Bacillus and it will be necessary to repeat these tests at intervals as long as there is a risk of infection. Contact examination conscientiously carried out necessitates prolonged and painstaking work, but it may be the means of detecting an early lesion which can be successfully treated.”

### **INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN SCHOOLS.**

40. There were 5,964 cases of infectious disease reported amongst school children of school age during the year, this being an increase of 1,932 cases compared with the previous year. With the exception of diphtheria, this increase was shared by all the infectious diseases. Measles gave an increase of 1,931 cases, and scarlet fever 306 cases, while diphtheria showed a decrease of 398 cases.

It was not necessary to close any school or department during the year on account of infectious disease.

41. The arrangements made in previous years for the inoculation against diphtheria of the children attending the infants' departments of the elementary schools were extended to cover all departments and also to include secondary schools. For this purpose visits were paid to 74 elementary schools and departments, and to 1 secondary school. In addition, a considerable number of children of school age were inoculated at the various immunisation clinics held throughout the city.

### **UNCLEANLINESS AND NEGLECT.**

42. The school nurses made 554,262 examinations of school children with regard to cleanliness, and altogether 31,449 children were found to show some evidence of verminous infection or were very dirty. In the case of 2,184 children, statutory notices were served upon the parents owing to their failure to cleanse their children after previous notification, and 1,675 children were cleansed by the parents and 509 had to be compulsorily cleansed by the staff.

The total number of attendances made at the cleansing stations during the year was 18,997, all being on account of verminous conditions.

At the routine examinations in the schools 13·9 per cent. of the boys and 34·0 per cent. of the girls were found to shew evidence of infestations. These figures are an increase on the previous year's figures of 9·6 per cent. and 27·7 per cent. respectively.

43. The School Attendance Department have co-operated with the School Medical Department in investigating cases of neglect referred to them. In particular they have assisted in securing the regular attendance of school children at the scabies clinics.

Mr. Keenan, the Superintendent of the School Attendance and Care Department, states that:—

“During the period 1st January, 1944, to 31st December, 1944, 31 parents were summoned for the neglect of their children. Proceedings resulted as follows: In eight cases fines of £2 to £5 were imposed. Five parents were bound over for twelve months, and sentences of imprisonment, ranging from one month to six months' hard labour were imposed in five instances. Five parents were discharged with a caution, seven mothers were placed on probation and one case was withdrawn.”

### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

44. The percentage of parents attending the medical inspection of the entrants during 1944 was 81·4 compared with 87·0 in the year preceding the war. In view of the many calls on parents in war work and other special duties, this percentage is very gratifying.

In the case of the leavers, however, the percentage has gradually dropped from 32·8 in 1938 to 14·5 in 1944.

In connection with the following-up of cases, 53,923 notices were sent from the office to parents.

45. PARENTS' PAYMENTS.—The charges made by the Committee for the various forms of treatment which they provided remained the same as in the previous year.

The following amounts were received during the year 1944 as parental contributions towards the cost of treatment:—

						£	s.	d.
Defective vision...	...	...	...	...	...	854	17	3
Dental defects ...	...	...	...	...	...	1,305	0	0
Tonsils and adenoids ...	...	...	...	...	...	196	10	0
Ringworm of the scalp	...	...	...	...	...	10	2	0
TOTAL...						£2,266	9	3

46. EMPLOYMENT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.—During the year a total of 2,884 children (2,839 boys and 45 girls) were engaged in part-time employment. The school medical officers examined 525 children as to their fitness to undertake work before school hours and in 17 cases the undertaking of this part-time work was not recommended on medical grounds.

During the year the Sub-Committee, dealing with the licensing of children, granted 29 theatrical licences.

47. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT.—In accordance with the arrangements made under Section 35 of the Children and Young Persons Act (1933), medical reports, for the information of the Magistrates in the Juvenile Courts at Liverpool and district and in certain reception areas, were submitted in 2,412 cases.

During the year, 241 cases were specially examined at the request of the Magistrates, and out of 114 of these, in which a report upon the mental condition had been requested, 108 were seen by Dr. F. P. Irvine, one of the Certifying Officers approved by the Ministry of Education. The remaining cases were examined by the medical officers to the Remand Homes.

48. SCHOOL PREMISES.—The City Engineer and Surveyor submitted a report relating to school premises giving details of certain improvements carried out, and the following is a brief summary of his report:—

Provision of new heating boilers...	...	...	...	...	11 schools
Improvements to playgrounds ...	...	...	...	...	2 schools
Repairs to floors, roofs, sinks, lighting, etc.	...	...	...	...	20 schools



## **EVACUATION.**

### **Evacuees from Southern England.**

49. Towards the end of 1944 Liverpool became a Reception Area for children evacuated from London and other parts of Southern England, and over 2,000 children were received and admitted to Liverpool schools. All the children were visited at the homes of their foster parents without delay by the school nurses. As a result of their visits, where necessary, arrangements were made for them to be medically examined. Altogether 24 cases of scabies were discovered, and arrangements were made for their immediate treatment. In the case of 17 children appointments were made for them to be seen by the eye or ear specialists, and a number of children were also treated at the appropriate clinics for various minor ailments, dental defects, and bed-wetting.

In 38 instances, behaviour problems were reported to the school nurses in consequence of which some were subsequently transferred to other billets or a Hostel.

Considerable difficulty was experienced by the Billeting Officer in finding a billet for one child on account of its low degree of intelligence, and arrangements were at once made for the child to be seen by one of the Certifying Officers who certified it as a mentally defective, and the child was forthwith admitted to the evacuated special school for mentally defective children at White Heather, Old Colwyn.

Almost without exception, the householders expressed their appreciation of the nurses' visits, and from the nurses' reports it appeared that on the whole the children arrived in a satisfactory state.

### **Return of Liverpool Evacuees from Reception Areas.**

50. Towards the end of the year, the Ministry of Health issued Circular 146/44 relating to the organised return of unaccompanied children from the reception areas to evacuation areas, including Merseyside.

Certain handicapped children, "under fives" in residential nurseries, children at Colomendy Camp, and other children whose circumstances required special consideration were excluded from the arrangements set out in the circular, and with these exceptions, arrangements for the return of the children were made accordingly.

These children arrived in Liverpool on the 28th, 29th and 30th November, and they were taken to certain schools used as examination and dispersal centres at each of which there was a doctor and several nurses. Each child was examined by a nurse who referred to the medical officer all cases shewing signs of a medical defect. The total number of children examined was 828, and of this number 86 were examined by the doctors. The medical defects included 22 cases of scabies and a few cases of minor ailments such as blepharitis, septic sores, etc., and these were referred for appropriate treatment at one of the Committee's clinics. In the case of 155 children some degree of infestation of nits or lice in the hair was discovered. Of these 73 were cleansed by the staff on the school premises with the consent of the parents, and in 82 cases the parents desired to cleanse their children at home.

### **SPECIAL SCHOOLS.**

51. The total number of children at the end of the year who had been certified as blind was 25 of whom 12 were attending the Wavertree School for the Blind, 7 the Roman Catholic School for the Blind, Brunswick Road, and 6 at the Sunshine Homes.

52. Classes for partially-sighted children were held in the following centres: Christ Church C.E. School, Grant Road Council School, Underlea Day Open-Air School and Fazakerley Day Open-Air School. The number on the rolls at these classes at the end of the year was 57.

53. A group of deaf children continued to receive education at the old Queensland Street Special School to which they were temporarily transferred from the Crown Street School. At the end of the year this group numbered 90.

In addition, 90 children were in residence, under the Government Evacuation Scheme, at the school established in Birkdale.

54. Four children were maintained by the Authority at the Homes for Epileptics, Maghull, during 1944. There were no new admissions during the period.

55. Since the war the Authority have had no residential school for delicate children. A number of such children have been admitted to the three evacuated residential special schools, and the Authority continues to make use of their 36 places at Torpenhow Open-Air School. The improvement in the general health of the children in these residential schools was again most marked.

The number of delicate children on the rolls of each of the day open-air schools at the end of the year was as follows:—

Fazakerley Open-Air School	...	...	...	...	112
Underlea Open-Air School	...	...	...	...	116
Margaret Beavan Open-Air School	...	...	...	...	98

A number of crippled children were also in attendance at these schools.

56. At the Alder Hey Hospital School 56 children were on the rolls at the end of the year. The residential schools, Tyndwr Hall, Edward Malam and Nant-y-coed, conducted for physically defective children in the reception areas, had 103 children in residence.

The head teachers of these special residential schools again comment upon the remarkable gains in health of the children with corresponding improvement in educational attainments.

57. The “crippled children” who remained in Liverpool numbered 306 at the year’s end and they were being educated at 5 schools, Crown Street (107), Margaret Beaven (100), Fazakerley (29), Underlea (52), Grant Road (18).

58. The accompanying return shews the results of the examinations made by the certifying officers of children referred for admission to schools for physically defective children:—



Certified for Day Open-Air Schools	...	...	...	...	...	148
Certified for Day Special P.D. Schools	...	...	...	...	...	117
Certified for Residential P.D. Schools	...	...	...	...	...	64
Certified for Epileptic Schools	...	...	...	...	...	5
Postponed for further trial in elementary schools or for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	56
Unsuitable for any school	...	...	...	...	...	8
Referred for mental examination	...	...	...	...	...	14
To remain in elementary school	...	...	...	...	...	45
Total						<u>457</u>

59. Apart from the war-time schools in the reception areas, the Authority has no residential provision for feeble-minded children, but during the year 22 children were maintained in the following schools: Pontville Roman Catholic Special School (14), Allerton Priory Roman Catholic Special School (7), and Dovecot Horticultural School for Girls (1).

60. Two special schools in the reception area are being run as residential schools for feeble-minded children. The one at White Heather, Old Colwyn, accommodates the girls and younger boys, whilst that at Crookhey Hall, near Lancaster, is for the older boys.

The head teachers of these schools again in their reports submit evidence of the great value of residential schools for the education of this type of child.

61. There were 409 feeble-minded children attending the Richmond and Crown Street Day Special Schools and the special classes which were arranged for at Major Lester, Banks Road, Grant Road, Underlea and Fazakerley Schools.

62. The results of examinations made by the Certifying Officers of children referred for ascertainment of their mental capacity is as follows:—

Certified for Special Day School	...	...	...	...	...	141
Certified for Special Residential School	...	...	...	...	...	5
Postponed for further trial in ordinary school or for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	86
Notified to L.M.H.B.	...	...	...	...	...	106
To remain in elementary schools	...	...	...	...	...	85
Total						<u>423</u>

63. The routine medical examinations and the general medical care of the special school children in the reception areas is carried out by local medical practitioners, whilst specialist and dental treatment is provided either under the Local Authorities' arrangements or, in a few instances, by special arrangements made in the reception areas.

All the medical and dental facilities of the School Medical Department are available for the special schools children, and the school medical officers devoted 473 sessions to this work.

Under the Committee's schemes, 64 cases of defective vision were treated. In addition, 5 children were operated on for tonsils and adenoids, 12 were treated at the aural clinics, and in the case of children suffering from crippling defects, full use was made of the facilities available at the orthopædic clinics.

64. The following table shews the work carried out by the dental staff of the School Medical Department at the Special Schools, and at Sankey Approved School:—

**TABLE 5.**

	Special Schools.	Sankey Approved School.
Number of inspection sessions ... ..	8	2
Number of treatment sessions ... ..	32	14
Total number of sessions ... ..	40	16
Number of children inspected ... ..	510	122
Number of children requiring treatment ... ..	252 (49·4%)	81 (65·0%)
Number of children treated ... ..	246	81
Number of attendances made for treatment ... ..	261	81
Number of teeth extracted ... ..	496	129
Number of teeth filled ... ..	19	8
Number of other operations ... ..	32	55
Number of administrations of general anaesthetics ... ..	220	36

### HIGHER SCHOOLS.

65. The number of schools visited was 19, and the number of medical inspections carried out was again much smaller than that of previous years, owing to the depletion of medical staff. The examinations were limited mainly to the new admissions, and the following are the figures:—

Routine cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,304
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	167
Special cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	132

The number of routine cases having defects for which they were referred for treatment was 297 (12·0 per cent.), some of these having multiple defects. Defects of the nose and throat were noted in 259 (11·2 per cent.), ear disease in 120 (5·2 per cent.) and organic heart disease in 29 (1·2 per cent.) of the pupils.

### EVERTON ROAD NURSERY SCHOOL.

66. The average number of children on the roll for the year was 154. Priority of admission continued to be given to those children whose mothers were engaged on war work.

During the year, 68 routine medical examinations of children were carried out. Of the children examined, 8·8 per cent. were recorded as having excellent nutrition, 88·3 per cent. as of normal nutrition, and 2·9 per cent. slightly sub-normal.

As a result of the medical examinations 10 children were found to require treatment for various defects and 58 were required to be kept under observation, the most common defects being tonsils and adenoids, bronchitis and rickets.

The treatment facilities at the adjoining clinic for minor ailments, defective vision and orthopædic conditions were available and made full use of with definite benefit to the children's general health.

### WAR-TIME NURSERY CLASSES.

67. There were 41 classes in operation accommodating some 1,460 children, with a staff of approximately 170, comprising wardens, nursery attendants and probationers.



The Education Committee organised six short training courses for nursery attendants in order that they might obtain the Card of Membership of the Child Care Reserve; these courses were also open to nursery attendants from Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education Nurseries on Merseyside. Several hundred Child Care Reservists have been trained by means of these courses.

The Education Committee is now preparing a scheme whereby nursery probationers, i.e., girls between the ages of 15 and 19 years, may be trained for a recognised Nursery Diploma. There are at present approximately 80 of these girls working in the Committee's Nursery School and War-time Nursery Classes. Some hope to enter either a training college for teachers or a training hospital, but the majority do not wish to teach or to nurse sick children, and would be eligible for the nursery training at present under consideration by the appropriate committee.

No further nursery classes appear to be necessary and the Education Committee's programme will be completed when the new hut for 60 children at Chatham Place and the second class for 30 children in Breckfield, Granton Road Infants' Department are opened. It is anticipated that this new accommodation will be ready by the beginning of March 1945.

68. The school medical officers carried out 716 medical examinations of these children during the year, and again comment on the improvement in the health of the children as a result of their attendance at these classes.

Amongst various defects discovered the most common were skin troubles, bronchitis, and enlarged tonsils and adenoids, and the treatment schemes at the clinics were made use of with good results. Fourteen children who shewed evidence of squint were provided with spectacles, 5 children were operated upon for unhealthy tonsils and adenoids, and a number of children received treatment at the various clinics for skin and ear troubles.

The nutrition of the children, as assessed clinically by the medical officers, was satisfactory, only 2.15 per cent. being assessed as below normal.

### CHILD GUIDANCE.

69. This report has been submitted by Dr. Devlin, the Psychiatrist, and refers mainly to the cases referred to the Notre Dame Child Guidance Clinic by the School Medical Department, during the period from 1st April to 31st December, 1944.

This period, of course, is much too short to allow of any real assessment of the work of the Clinic, as psychiatric treatment is a slow and complex process; and while no average time limit can be given, six months is often necessary, and in certain cases, a year, or longer may be required.

Many factors combine to create a very great need for Child Guidance work in the Merseyside area, and at the same time, to render such work more difficult. The most important of these are the marked overcrowding of homes in the poorest districts (this tends to drive children on to the streets, where they easily drift into delinquency) and the large amount of intellectual dullness and backwardness among these children—which tends to make truancy with secondary stealing very common.

Furthermore, there is the important factor of lack of parental control owing to the war situation. Not only are many of the fathers in the Services, but mothers also are in paid employment, for which reason their mothers are unable to attend the Clinic, which means that we cannot give them the help they need, in order to manage difficult children successfully; they are often out, too, when the social worker visits them at home.

70. Twenty-three children referred by the School Medical Department, have been seen at this Clinic, and had diagnostic interviews. Of these 4 were considered unsuitable for Child Guidance treatment. Sixteen are at present receiving treatment, either by attendance at the play-group, or by coaching, or, in some cases by both. In addition, one

child from this group is having individual psychiatric treatment, and many others in the group are awaiting such individual treatment, but owing to pressure of work, it has not yet been possible to arrange for this. There are also some children in this group who have been recommended for the Play-Group only, owing to their dull intelligence. Most of the children in this group are making satisfactory progress. The mothers of all these children, when it is possible for them to attend, are having interviews with the psychiatric social worker, who also often visits them at home. These parental interviews and home visits are an important part of the treatment, since environmental factors play so large a part in many of the cases. Three have been treated and discharged, with the following results: Adjusted, 2; much improved, 1. Investigation of these 23 cases showed that:—

5 were mentally defective.

4 were exhibiting behaviour disorders, owing to their inability to obtain satisfaction from their school work on account of their dullness or backwardness.

4 children had speech defects associated with emotional problems.

10 suffered from anxiety states.

71. In addition to the cases referred by the School Medical Department, many other Liverpool school children referred from other sources have been treated at this clinic during the year 1944, and much work has also been done for children from other areas.

Thirty-three children (not referred by the School Medical Department) have been seen here during the year. Of these:—

[23 are attending the play-group or for coaching (in some cases for both).

3 are at present receiving individual treatment (in addition to attendance at the play-group).

7 have been treated and discharged with the following results:—

Adjusted	...	...	...	4
Much improved	...	...	...	3

72. We are deeply grateful to the Probation Officers, Teaching Staff, Education Officers, and Social Workers, who take such a keen interest in the work of the clinic, and would like to express our thanks to them for their valued help and co-operation.



## JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT BUREAU.

73. The following paragraphs are extracted from a full report by the Juvenile Employment Bureau in July, 1944.

74. The outstanding feature that has emerged from the past year's work in the Bureau has been the growing realisation on the part of Liverpool employers and of their Trade Associations of the gradually shrinking quota of juveniles now available for the employment field. Unlike the Midlands, the South and certain other districts, Merseyside has for many years had a pool of surplus labour from which local employers could meet their needs. Up to last year it had been possible to satisfy very largely the demands of firms for the services of young people and until then few employers in this district had been seriously inconvenienced by a shortage of juveniles. Now, however, many firms find themselves unable to recruit sufficient young people to maintain production to full capacity and in several industries the shortage has restricted essential services. This position is not due solely to war-time conditions but is, of course, aggravated by the withdrawal of adults for the Forces and for other work of national importance.

75. The major cause for this shrinkage in the number available is the falling-off in the birthrate from the year 1920. In that year the number of births in Liverpool, as recorded by the Registrar General, was 25,193, whereas in 1930 the number had fallen to 19,171, a reduction of 23·9 per cent. The children born in 1930—unless they remain at school—are the young people who would be entering employment during this year, but many of them have left the City and owing to housing difficulties their parents are unable to return, so that the number available is reduced even further than the 23·9 per cent. indicated above. Moreover, there was an almost continuous year by year decline in the birthrate up to 1939, in which year the births only reached a figure of 15,016, or merely two-thirds of the 1920 figure. The expansion of industry and trade on the cessation of hostilities will undoubtedly increase in many directions the demands for juvenile labour, while with the removal of restrictions and the greater variety in the type of openings for them, young people will be able to exercise

more choice not only in the selection of a career but even with regard to the particular employer to whom they offer their services. Firms now experiencing difficulty in the recruitment of juveniles are therefore seeking ways of adjusting their methods, while others, through their Associations, are engaged on formulating schemes for training and improving conditions in anticipation that they will thereby be able to attract the right type of young persons who will continue in progressive employment over a period of years. It is the Committee's fervent hope that more employers will adopt this procedure and thus possibly avoid further competition among employers for young workers by the payment of unreasonably high wages. Inability to settle at work, absenteeism and bad timekeeping on the part of juveniles are to-day very largely fostered by the knowledge that, if discharged, they can so readily obtain another job at a high rate of pay.

76. With the continuance of the war and the consequent reduced number of adults available for civilian employment, the demand for the services of juveniles has shewn a further increase. As a result, no difficulty need be experienced by any boy or girl in getting work, either with Bureau assistance or by their own efforts, and this position is reflected in the reduced number of applicants recorded as having registered at the Bureau. Fresh registrations totalled 14,714 (8,147 boys, 6,567 girls), of whom 6,978 (4,057 boys, 2,921 girls) were school leavers seeking their first employment. This figure is a reduction of 2,800 on last year's total. Re-registrations after short periods of employment were 11,259 (6,129 boys, 5,130 girls).

77. The problems arising in connection with handicapped juveniles have been receiving particular attention, for although at present there are more opportunities for them to obtain work and employers are increasingly coming to the opinion that their services can be used to the benefit of the community, they do not always enter the employment for which they are best suited or which will provide them with a career. During the past three years much additional attention has been focussed on the special needs of the disabled and handicapped; the Ministry of Health has issued circulars to hospitals on rehabilitation, Almoners and



part of their training are now encouraged to make use of all the agencies which are likely to have a psychologically beneficial effect on patients, while the Ministry of Labour has given much publicity to the Interim Scheme for the Training of the Disabled and to the facilities for obtaining artificial limbs. As a result there are many more juveniles needing help, in addition to those from Special Schools, being brought to the notice of the Bureau Officers than formerly. Owing to the nature of their handicap these young people cannot effectively be dealt with by routine methods but they will amply repay any special measures that may be taken on their behalf. The Committee have accordingly decided to recommend the re-appointment of an officer whose duty it will be to devote her time to assist handicapped juveniles.

78. From the foregoing brief outlines of some of the Committee's activities it will be clear that during the past year although there have been no spectacular developments the Bureau and its branch offices have been fully occupied in dealing with the many problems that have arisen during the fifth year of the war. Vocational guidance has continued to be limited by the necessity of finding juvenile labour for war-time industries and to replace workers called up for the Forces. The variety in the type of work available was still restricted, more so for boys than for girls, and many of the former continued to suffer disappointment by the lack of apprenticeships in such industries as building, engineering (draughtsmen, toolmakers, aero, electric, marine, etc.) and printing. To girls, however, most normal forms of employment were, generally speaking, available. Some boys who, owing to the absence of vacancies in work of their choice, had to accept factory or mill work soon became unsettled by the narrow and repetitive character of their tasks and drifted from one job to another, hopeful that during their short periods of unemployment they would be fortunate enough to secure outdoor work in motor transport, on building, or at sea. Too often, however, such opportunities did not materialise and while it must be recorded that the vast majority of boys remained settled in work other than their choice, appreciating this to be their contribution towards the war effort, a small proportion who appeared to be less influenced by these motives frequently changed



their jobs. This latter group, relatively few in number, who were inclined to place too high a value on their services, lost interest in their personal appearance and many of them became entangled in difficulties arising from lack of discipline both in the home and in life outside. To the credit of those in the older group it must be stated, however, they were keen to enter the Services as soon as they reached the minimum age and there is little doubt that in the Forces they will acquit themselves creditably and speedily respond to the prevailing discipline. As indicated, the demand for girls was always heavy and afforded a fairly wide variety of openings carrying good wages for employment near the girls' own homes, with the result that such industries as the needle trades, printing, laundry, confectionery, etc., which offered facilities for training but lower initial wages, suffered seriously through an inadequate supply of labour.

79. Employers generally were appreciative of the unsettling effect of war-time conditions and did all possible by canteen and other facilities to cater for the well-being and happiness of their workers. Throughout the year Bureau Officers were frequently invited to make visits of inspection to firms' premises to familiarise themselves with working conditions, details of processes, and the special aptitudes required from workers. As far as time permitted these invitations were accepted and many employers expressed gratification for the co-operation received. In some instances it was possible to arrange conducted tours for boys and girls in order not only to stimulate recruitment to a particular trade or industry but also to ensure that the juveniles might be afforded an opportunity of visualising modern processes and manufacturing methods before making a decision on the career they intended to adopt.

W. M. FRAZER,

*Medical Officer to the*

*Education Authority.*

## Appendix A.

# MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS, YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1944.

### TABLE I.

## MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

### A.—Routine Medical Inspections.

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS IN THE PRESCRIBED GROUPS :—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,866
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	Not Inspected	
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,096
Total							21,962

### B.—Other Inspections.

NUMBER OF SPECIAL INSPECTIONS AND RE-INSPECTIONS... \*105,192

\* This figure includes 11,000 inspections of Scabies cases.

### TABLE II.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR  
IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

Number of Children Inspected.	A. (Excellent).		B. (Normal).		C. (Slightly subnormal).		D. (Bad).	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
21,962	1,465	6.68	20,228	92.10	265	1.20	4	0.02

TABLE III.

**Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V).**

TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFECTS TREATED OR UNDER TREATMENT DURING THE YEAR  
UNDER THE AUTHORITY'S SCHEME, \*41,244.

\* This figure includes 6,729 Scabies cases.

**Group II.—Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments, Group I).**

	No. of Defects dealt with under the Authority's Scheme.
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint) .....	4,739
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I) .....	9
Total .....	4,748
<hr/>	
No. of Children for whom spectacles were :	
(a) Prescribed .....	3,268
(b) Obtained .....	3,234

**Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.**

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.		
Received Operative Treatment under the Authority's Scheme, or Clinic or Hospital. (1)	Received other forms of Treatment. (2)	Total number treated. (3)
326	—	326



TABLE IV.

## DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

Number of Children Inspected :—

(a) Routine Age groups .....	70,003		
(b) Specials .....	2,943		
(c) Total (Routines and Specials) .....	72,946		
(2) Number found to require treatment .....	47,418		
(3) Number actually treated .....	22,747		
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment .....	30,878		
(5) Half-days devoted to { Inspection .....	587	} Total ...	4,678
{ *Treatment .....	4,091		
* Includes 1,411 sessions in which a Dental Officer acted as Anæsthetist.			
(6) Fillings :— { Permanent Teeth .....	6,453	} Total ...	6,453
{ Temporary Teeth .....	—		
(7) Extractions :— { Permanent Teeth .....	13,618	} Total ...	58,920
{ Temporary Teeth .....	45,302		
(8) Administrations of general anæsthetic for extractions .....	20,247		
(9) Other Operations :— { Permanent Teeth .....	1,616	} Total ...	1,616
{ Temporary Teeth .....	—		

TABLE V.

## VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(1) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses or other authorised persons .....	78.2
(2) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses .....	554,262
(3) Number of individual children found unclean.....	31,449
(4) Number of individual children cleansed under the Liverpool Corporation Act .....	18,997
(5) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—	
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921 .....	Nil
(b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws.....	Nil

TABLE VI.

## BLIND AND DEAF CHILDREN.

	(1) At a Public Elementary School.	(2) At an Institution other than a Special School.	(3) At no School or Institution.	(4) Total not receiving suitable Education.
Blind Children ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Deaf Children ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

TABLE VII.

**SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFF, LIVERPOOL**  
on 31st December, 1944.

Name of Officer.	Permanent or Temporary.	Proportion of time devoted to	
		School Medical Service.	Public Health.
<b>School Medical Officer.</b> Dr. W. M. Frazer (also M.O.H.) .....	Permanent	Not assessable	Whole- time.
<b>Chief Assistant S.M.O.</b> Dr. R. Gamlin .....	„	Whole-time	Nil
<b>Assistant S.M.O.s.</b> Dr. Ethelwyn M. Walters .....	„	„	„
Dr. Helen Keith .....	„	„	„
Dr. Mary F. Lacey .....	„	„	„
Dr. Grace E. McConkey .....	„	„	„
Dr. F. P. Irvine .....	„	„	„
Dr. Lilian W. Massey (Mrs. Hughes) .....	Temporary	„	„
Dr. Hilda A. Channon .....	„	„	„
Dr. Elizabeth P. Duncan .....	„	3 sessions per week	„
Dr. Joan S. Ryan .....	„	4 „	„
Dr. Catherine S. Ellams .....	„	2 „	„
NOTE.—The eight male Assistant S.M.Os. who have been called up for service in H.M. Forces are <b>not</b> included above.			
<b>Senior School Dental Officer.</b> Mr. T. H. Parsons .....	Permanent	Whole-time	Two dentists devote approximately one session per week each to the treatment of ante- and post-natal cases for the Public Health Department (M. & C. W.).
<b>Assistant School Dental Officers.</b> Mr. F. C. Littleton .....	„	„	
Mr. J. Tyson .....	„	„	
Mr. J. A. Wood .....	„	„	
Mr. A. Brewer .....	„	„	
Mr. G. E. Nevins. ....	„	„	
Mr. L. A. Jones .....	„	„	
Mr. E. Crosbie .....	„	„	
Miss C. C. Sloan .....	Temporary	Whole-time	
Miss Marion Levy .....	„	„	
Mr. J. A. Bell .....	} Temporary part-time	6 }	
Mr. J. P. Blacoe .....		6 }	
Mr. H. W. Martin .....		5 }	
Mr. A. E. Watson .....		3 }	
Mr. M. Hely .....		3 }	
			Sessions per week
NOTE.—The seven Dental Officers who have been called up for service in H.M. Forces, are <b>not</b> included above.			

**SCHOOL NURSING STAFF on 31st December, 1944.**

(Excluding Specialist Nurses such as Orthopaedic Nurses).

	Number of Officers.	Aggregate of time given to S.M.S. work in terms of whole-time officers.
School Nurses .....	53 Permanent* 24 Temporary	77
District Nurses .....	Nil	Nil
Nursing Assistants .....	11 Temporary (4 are half-time)	9
Dental Attendants .....	6	6

\*Not including 5 in H.M. Forces.



Appendix B.

**TABLE I.**  
**MEDICAL INSPECTION OF CHILDREN ATTENDING**  
**HIGHER SCHOOLS.**

**A.—Routine Medical Inspections.**

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS IN THE PRESCRIBED GROUPS—

Age.							Boys.	Girls.	TOTAL.
8 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	74	77	151
9 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	56	116
10 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	126	203
11 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	272	452	724
12 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	152	190	342
13 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	183	68	251
14 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	387	79	466
15 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	26	43
16 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
17 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
TOTAL							1,225	1,079	2,304

**B.—Other Inspections.**

NUMBER OF SPECIAL INSPECTIONS AND RE-INSPECTIONS ... .. 297

**HIGHER SCHOOLS.**

**TABLE II.**  
**Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the**  
**Year in the Routine Age Groups.**

Age-groups.	Number of Children Inspected.	A. (Excellent).		B. (Normal).		C. (Slightly subnormal).		D. (Bad).	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
All Routine Inspections .....	2,304	177	7.65	2,127	92.3	1	0.05	—	—

TABLE III.

Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V).

TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFECTS TREATED OR UNDER TREATMENT DURING THE YEAR UNDER THE AUTHORITY'S SCHEME, 17.

Group II.—Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint (Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

	Number of Defects dealt with.
	Under the Authority's Scheme.
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint).....	376
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I).....	—
Total .....	376

	Under the Authority's Scheme.
Number of children for whom spectacles were	
(a) Prescribed .....	217
(b) Obtained .....	216

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.		Total number treated.
Received Operative Treatment.	Received other forms of Treatment.	
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital.		
4	—	4





## **Appendix C.**

### **REPORT BY THE INSPECTOR OF PHYSICAL TRAINING FOR THE YEAR, 1944.**

1. Continued progress has been made during the year towards the restoration in schools of physical training activities to the degree obtaining prior to the outbreak of war. The year 1944 has seen the release of those school premises which still continued in the occupation of Civil Defence Services, with the result that more and better facilities have been available in halls and gymnasia.

The teachers have worked successfully to combat the difficult position resulting from the absence of so many men teachers on war service, and the general shortage of teachers, and are deserving of credit for their efforts.

It must be admitted that the limited supply of games material and equipment which now reaches the schools has increased the difficulties of developing organised games.

#### **2. Physical Exercises.**

The children in Liverpool elementary schools received systematic, progressive and regular training in physical exercises, in accordance with the Board of Education syllabus, throughout the year, though the facilities for these exercises vary widely in extent and value. The senior schools provided in recent years possess fully-equipped gymnasia, and more than thirty other schools contain halls with portable apparatus, but so far the majority of the older schools lack adequate accommodation for the rational development of physical training. It is noteworthy, however, that some of the best results are seen in schools where conditions are far from ideal; this is a tribute to the skill and energy of the teachers in those schools.

#### **3. Organised Games.**

Children from the majority of senior and junior departments of elementary schools again enjoyed facilities for organised games in playing

fields, parks and recreation grounds. Opportunities for outdoor physical recreation, of course, remain restricted by the loss of many acres of playing space to the requirements of food production, and by the inability of the Parks and Gardens Department to provide more than a minimum of maintenance work, but the teaching staffs have most commendably taken every advantage of whatever facilities were available. Some further notes on after-school activities appear later in this Report in the section devoted to the work of the Teachers' Sports Associations.

By the provision of tram-tickets, at an approximate cost for the year of £360, the Committee enabled some 43 school departments situated in congested areas of the City to visit suburban parks and playing fields for weekly games sessions.

#### 4. Swimming Instruction.

The attendance of school children at public baths again reached a gratifying high level, although the children are now asked to bring their own towels. Sixteen establishments were used during the year and, despite the restrictions inevitable under war-time conditions, 202,578 attendances were recorded. The following table gives an analysis of the total attendances at the various types of baths during the summer and winter seasons.

Total attendance at Swimming Plunges, 1944.				Total attendances at Slipper and Spray Baths, 1944			
Summer Months,		Winter Months,		Summer Months,		Wintes Months	
Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys	Girls
118,388	52,985	26,753	3,246	451	153	506	96
171,373		29,999		604		602	
201,372				1,206			
GRAND TOTAL, 202,578							

#### 5. School Holiday Camps.

An increased number of schools found it possible to organise camps during the Midsummer holiday period 1944. Grants-in-aid were

approved by the Committee, at the rate of 15s. per leader and 10s. per scholar, in respect of some 400 necessitous children (representative of 13 schools).

Ambitious programmes of rambles, visits to places of interest in the neighbourhood of the camps, and so on, were provided by the camp organisers, and no difficulties were experienced in securing adequate quantities of foodstuffs. An interesting point is the steady gain in the popularity of Youth Hostels in connection with schoolchildren's holidays, though it is as yet too early to foresee if this trend will be maintained in the post-war years when camping equipment again comes on to the market.

## 6. Evening Play Centres.

By the end of the year, 24 play centres were in operation; four new centres (Sefton Park Council School, Our Lady's R.C. School, St. Philomena's R.C. School, and Daisy Street Council School) having been established during 1944. A high level of average attendance has been maintained, and in the month of December, for instance, the approximate total number of children in attendance at all centres was 3,600 per evening. The centres function on five evenings weekly, between the hours of 4.0 and 6.0 o'clock. Efforts have been made from time to time to increase the existing stocks of games' material and other equipment indigenous to play centre work, and a wide range of activities—both educational and recreative—has been pursued by the children.

Special attention continues to be paid at the majority of the centres to the needs of war-workers' children; to this end, light refreshments have been provided in those centres where the demand has been apparent.

No steps were taken to provide holiday play centres, or (apart from the provision of meals and milk) to open schools as recreative centres during the holiday periods. The experience of previous years shows that the majority of children prefer to make their own arrangements for spending their free time, unbound by even the mild degree of supervision obtaining in play centres.



## 7. Classes for Teachers.

Courses for teachers in day-schools have been held as follows:—

(a) Infants' teachers	...	Miss R. Catton	...	October— December.
(b) Juniors' teachers	...	Miss M. B. Tod	...	*January— February.
Do.	...	do.	...	October— December.
(c) Seniors' teachers (specialising in the use of an equipped gymnasium)	...	Miss M. Crabbe	...	*January— February.
Seniors' teachers (specialising in the use of portable apparatus).	...	Miss E. G. Pollard	...	October— December.

(\* In completion of a course).

A course of recreational activities for women leaders in Evening Institutes and Clubs, taken by Miss C. Taylor, was attended by 45 people.

From October onwards, a long session covering recreational physical activities has been conducted in co-operation with the Central Council of Physical Recreation and the Liverpool Union of Girls' and Mixed Clubs. This course, consisting of two-hourly lessons, has been well attended; it was designed to train advanced leaders for the National Test of the Central Council, and to train less-experienced leaders (and potential leaders) to take recreational physical training in Clubs and Evening Institutes. The course was not limited to Liverpool residents. Staffing was in the hands of Miss R. Keeble (of the Central Council) and Miss M. C. Taylor (of Liverpool University).

Facilities have again been extended to students of the Liverpool Physical Training College to practise in elementary schools, and good use has been made of the opportunities thus offered.

During the year a group has been formed of persons interested in Modern Dance, and this group now meets at the Liverpool Physical Training College. A fair proportion of the members are teachers in the service of the Education Committee.

## 8. **Evening Institutes and Youth Organisations.**

The Committee's Inspector of Evening Schools reports that facilities for physical training and for dancing (folk-dancing, country dancing and ballroom dancing) again attracted large numbers of juveniles of both sexes belonging to the Social and Recreative Sections of the Evening Institutes. During the session 1944-45, 35 such Club sections were conducted and, in each, physical training and dancing were two of the most popular activities.

Dancing and physical training have also been popular activities in the voluntary youth organisations, and a large number of youth clubs have been enabled by assistance from the Committee to provide classes in these subjects; in fact, practically every youth organisation (to the number of approximately 260) now provides some form of physical training for its members. In addition, all the pre-service training units—Air Training Corps, Army Cadets, Sea Cadets, Merchant Navy Cadets, Girls' Training Corps, etc.—require their members to attend classes in physical training.

A relatively high proportion of juveniles of the 14-20 age group are thus taking part in one form or another of "keep-fit" activities.

## 9. **The Work of the Teachers' Associations.**

Competitive games and sports' meetings, "after school hours" and on Saturdays, have been organised by the Sports' Committees of

- (a) the Liverpool & District Teachers' Association (controlling the activities of girls);
- (b) The Liverpool Association of Schoolmasters (controlling the activities of boys); and
- (c) The Liverpool Schools' Football Association (controlling all football competitions for boys).

Extracts from reports submitted by the hon. secretaries of these three organisations are here appended:—

- (a) By Miss M. Williams, Hon. Secretary of the Sports' Committee of the Liverpool and District Teachers' Association.

“ During the past year the L. & D.T.A. Sports’ Committee has  
 “ concentrated on the encouragement of hockey, netball, rounders  
 “ and swimming.

“ Swimming did not progress as we had hoped, owing to the  
 “ cold weather of the early summer and the effect of the fuel  
 “ economy campaign on the heating of the baths. Many schools did  
 “ not attend the baths, and in the case of those that did numbers  
 “ of children did not remain in the water for any length of time.  
 “ This affected the trials and reduced the number of certificates  
 “ issued; it was also impossible to run galas and league com-  
 “ petitions.

“ A very successful netball competition was organised on a  
 “ limited scale, 20 entries being recorded in the Senior Section  
 “ and 16 in the Junior Section.”

(b) By Mr. D. Snowdon, Hon. Secretary of the Sports’ Committee  
 of the Liverpool Association of Schoolmasters.

“ The Sports’ Committee decided not to organise any league or  
 “ knock-out competitions in cricket, baseball and athletics owing  
 “ to the many war-time difficulties.

“ The experiment of running a City Schoolboys’ Cricket Eleven  
 “ met with success; about fifty boys were nominated and from  
 “ these a team was selected to play home and away games with  
 “ Junior Elevens of the Holt and Quarry Bank High Schools and  
 “ with the Liverpool College Colts Eleven, when the schoolboys  
 “ rose to the occasion in their customary manner.

“ Over 400 swimming certificates were issued—beginners 275,  
 “ distance 129.

“ We express our gratitude to those of our colleagues who have  
 “ helped in any way to keep alive the interest in cricket and  
 “ swimming during these hard times.”

(c) By Mr. H. R. Atherley, Hon. Secretary of the Liverpool  
 Schools’ Football Association.



“ The sixth winter of the war has seen the Association’s activities  
 “ become still more vigorous and expansive despite increasing diffi-  
 “ culties, and it has good reason to believe that in the organisa-  
 “ tion of leagues and inter-city games Liverpool has led the country.

“ Caught by the enthusiasm of the few who ran school teams in  
 “ the past two seasons, several more colleagues have been drawn  
 “ into leagues with the result that in the leagues open to all schools  
 “ no less than—

24 teams played in the under-14 league;

5 teams played in the under-12 league ;

8 teams played in the league for junior schools ; and

22 teams were entered in the knock-out competition.

“ Concurrently, 14 teams played in the senior leagues for  
 “ Catholic schools and 7 in the junior leagues.

“ The Education Committee, as has been their custom and  
 “ pleasure for very many years, allowed us the use of their playing  
 “ fields, but the condition of these fields has not permitted the best  
 “ type of game to be played.

“ On the equipment side we have had the utmost sympathy and  
 “ help from the Education Committee, but that has been restricted  
 “ by the Ministry of Supply.

“ Clothing his team for a game has given a great deal of extra  
 “ work to every master who has attempted to run a team, and  
 “ whilst we do thank parents for their co-operation we must put  
 “ on record the dissatisfaction of this Association that, whilst an  
 “ issue of extra coupons could be made to professional clubs (for  
 “ entertainment), there was no similar arrangement for boys whose  
 “ physical and moral health is so stimulated by their games.

“ Pursuing its policy of fostering schools football by playing  
 “ friendly inter-town games, the Liverpool City Boys’ Team has  
 “ played nine games this season. The results have perhaps not  
 “ justified early optimism, but nevertheless the team is to be con-  
 “ gratulated on serving up excellent football on each occasion, and

“ more than one of the results might easily have been reversed  
 “ if a little luck had attended our efforts.

“ Results—

Ellesmere Port	...	...	at South Liverpool	...	...	7—1
Salford	...	...	at Salford	...	...	4—3
Derby	...	...	at Derby	...	...	1—3
Derby	...	...	at South Liverpool	...	...	0—4
Manchester	...	...	at Manchester	...	...	1—4
Sheffield	...	...	at Sheffield	...	...	0—6
Ellesmere Port	...	...	at Ellesmere Port	...	...	1—1
Manchester	...	...	at South Liverpool	...	...	1—3
Salford	...	...	at Goodison Park	...	...	4—1

“ A junior City team is now in the process of building, so that  
 “ when the English Schools Shield and the Lancashire Schools Cup  
 “ Competitions are recommenced next season it is hoped that all  
 “ the arduous work of keeping alive the spirit of football in our  
 “ schools will bring its just reward.”

10. In conclusion, the Inspector of Physical Training wishes to emphasise the value and extent of this voluntary work, organised and controlled by teachers in connection with the physical education of the school children after school hours, and suggests that a letter of appreciation be sent to the Hon. Secretary of each Association referred to in the latter portion of this report.

A. E. HARRIS,

*Inspector of Physical Training.*

EDUCATION OFFICE,

LIVERPOOL.

*June, 1945.*





SCHOOL NURSING STAFF on 31st December, 1945.  
(Excluding Specialist Nurses such as Orthopaedic Nurses).

	Number of Officers.	Aggregate of time given to S.H.S. work in terms of whole-time officers.
School Nurses .....	56 Permanent* 14 Temporary	70
District Nurses .....	Nil	Nil
Nursing Assistants .....	6 Temporary (1 is half-time)	5½
Dental Attendants .....	5	5

\*Not including 3 in H.M. Forces.

**TABLE VII.**  
**SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFF, LIVERPOOL**  
on 31st December, 1945.

Name of Officer.	Permanent or Temporary.	Proportion of time devoted to		
		School Health Service.	Public Health.	
<b>School Medical Officer.</b>				
Dr. W. M. Frazer (also M.O.H.) .....	Permanent	Not assessable	Whole- time.	
<b>Chief Assistant S.M.O.</b>				
Dr. R. Gamlin .....	"	Whole-time	Nil	
<b>Senior Assistant S.M.O.s.</b>				
Dr. G. S. Robertson .....	"	"	"	
Dr. Ethelwyn M. Walters .....	"	"	"	
<b>Assistant S.M.O.s.</b>				
Dr. A. T. Burn .....	"	"	"	
Dr. M. Godwin .....	"	"	"	
Dr. F. P. Irvine .....	"	"	"	
Dr. Mary F. Lacey .....	"	"	"	
Dr. Grace E. McConkey .....	"	"	"	
Dr. Helen Keith .....	Temporary	"	"	
Dr. Clarice Harrison .....	"	"	"	
Dr. Lilian W. Massey (Mrs. Hughes) .....	"	"	"	
Dr. Elizabeth P. Duncan .....	} Temporary part-time	3 sessions	"	
Dr. Catherine S. Ellams .....		2 per	"	
Dr. Wilhelmina L. Devlin .....		4 week	"	
NOTE.—This does <b>not</b> include 5 S.M.Os. who had not been released from the Forces by the end of the year.				
<b>Senior Dental Officer.</b>				
Mr. T. H. Parsons .....	Permanent	Whole-time		
<b>Other Dental Officers.</b>				
Mr. A. Brewer .....	"	"	Two dentists devote approximately 1½ sessions per week each to the treatment of ante- and post-natal cases for the Public Health Department (M. & C. W.).	
Mr. E. Crosbie .....	"	"		
Mr. L. A. Jones .....	"	"		
Mr. F. C. Littleton .....	"	"		
Mr. J. W. Martin .....	"	"		
Mr. G. E. Nevins. ....	"	"		
Mr. J. Tyson .....	"	"		
Mr. J. A. Wood .....	"	"		
Miss Marion Levy .....	Temporary	"		
Miss C. C. Sloan .....	"	"		
NOTE.—This does not include 6 Dentists who had not been released from the Forces by the end of the year.				
Mr. J. A. Bell .....	} Temporary part-time	6 } Sessions		
Mr. J. P. Blacoe .....		6 } per week		
Mr. H. W. Martin .....		5 }		
Mr. A. E. Watson .....		2 }		

**TABLE IV.****DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.**

(1) Number of Pupils Inspected :—				
(a) Routine Age groups	.....			70,850
(b) Specials	.....			2,859
(c) Total (Routines and Specials)	.....			73,709
(2) Number found to require treatment				48,343
(3) Number actually treated				27,083
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment				34,843
(5) Half-days devoted to	{ Inspection	.....	536 }	Total ... 5,131
	{ *Treatment	.....	4,595 }	
* Includes 1,542 sessions in which a Dental Officer acted as Anæsthetist.				
(6) Fillings :—	{ Permanent Teeth	.....	7,485 }	Total ... 7,485
	{ Temporary Teeth	.....	— }	
(7) Extractions :—	{ Permanent Teeth	.....	12,536 }	Total ... 60,285
	{ Temporary Teeth	.....	47,749 }	
(8) Administrations of general anæsthetic for extractions				22,782
(9) Other Operations :—	{ Permanent Teeth	.....	1,740 }	Total ... 1,740
	{ Temporary Teeth	.....	— }	

**TABLE V.****VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.**

(1) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses or other authorised persons .....		74·8
(2) Total number of examinations of pupils in the Schools by School Nurses		429,709
(3) Number of individual pupils found unclean .....		24,172

**TABLE VI.**

Number of totally or almost totally blind and deaf pupils who are NOT at the present time being educated in a Special School.

**BLIND AND DEAF CHILDREN.**

	(1) At a Public Elementary School.	(2) At an Institution other than a Special School.	(3) At no School or Institution.	(4) Total not receiving suitable Education.
Blind Children ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Deaf Children ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



TABLE III.

Group I.—Treatment of Minor Ailments (Excluding Uncleanliness).

TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFECTS TREATED OR UNDER TREATMENT DURING THE YEAR  
UNDER THE AUTHORITY’S SCHEME, 37,585.

Group II.—Treatment of Defective Vision and Squint.

	Under the Authority’s Scheme.
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including squint).....	4,432
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I).....	12
Total .....	4,444
Number of children for whom spectacles were :	
(a) Prescribed .....	3,021
(b) Obtained .....	2,990

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.		
Received Operative Treatment.	Received other forms of Treatment.	Total number treated.
Under the Authority’s Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital.		
156	—	156

Appendix.

# **MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT RETURNS, YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1945.**

**TABLE I.**

## **MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS.**

**A.—Routine Medical Inspections.**

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS IN THE PRESCRIBED GROUPS :—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	12,005
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	Not Inspected
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	1,777
Total	...	...	...	...	...	13,782

**B.—Other Inspections.**

NUMBER OF SPECIAL INSPECTIONS AND RE-INSPECTIONS ... 96,766

**TABLE II.**

## **CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.**

Number of Pupils Inspected.	A. (Excellent).		B. (Normal).		C. (Slightly subnormal).		D. (Bad).	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
13,782	695	5.03	12,926	93.80	158	1.15	3	0.02





68. The results of examinations made by the Approved Officers of children referred for ascertainment as being educationally sub-normal pupils are as follows:—

Recommended for Special Day School .....	199
Recommended for Special Boarding School .....	28
Postponed for further trial in ordinary school or for treatment.....	28
Notified to L.M.D.A. ....	136
To remain in elementary schools.....	233
Total .....	<u>624</u>

69. The routine medical examinations and the general medical care of the special school children in the special schools outside of Liverpool is carried out by local medical practitioners, whilst specialist and dental treatment is provided either under the Local Authorities' arrangements, or, in a few instances, by special arrangements made in the areas.

All the medical and dental facilities of the School Health Service are available for the special school children, and the school medical officers devoted 557 sessions to this work.

70. The following shews the work carried out by the dental staff of the School Health Service at the Special Schools:—

Number of inspection sessions.....	8
Number of treatment sessions .....	27
Total number of sessions .....	35
Number of children inspected.....	652
Number of children requiring treatment.....	357 (54·7%)
Number of children treated .....	231
Number of attendances made for treatment .....	235
Number of teeth extracted .....	443
Number of teeth filled .....	9
Number of other operations .....	24
Number of administrations of general anaesthetics .....	207

W. M. FRAZER,

*Medical Officer to the  
Education Authority.*

The physically-handicapped pupils who remained in Liverpool numbered 330 at the year's end and they were being educated at five schools: Crown Street (121), Margaret Beavan (112), Fazakerley (36), Underlea (47), Grant Road (14).

65. Miss Henry, the Headmistress of the Margaret Beavan School, has reported instances to shew that the education given to the physically handicapped does fit them to secure satisfactory employment.

66. The accompanying return shews the results of the examinations made by the approved medical officers of children referred with various physical handicaps:—

Recommended for Day Open-Air Schools.....	90
Recommended for Day Special P.H. Schools.....	108
Recommended for Boarding P.H. Schools .....	73
Recommended for Schools (Epileptic).....	11
Postponed for further trial in ordinary schools or for treatment.....	33
Unsuitable for any school .....	11
Referred for mental examination.....	11
To remain in ordinary school.....	78
	<hr/>
	415
	<hr/>

Two boarding schools, which commenced for the purpose of evacuation during the war, are being continued as special schools for educationally subnormal pupils. The White Heather School, Old Colwyn, accommodates 32 girls and younger boys, whilst that at Crookhey Hall, near Lancaster, is for 70 older boys.

67. The Authority also maintained educationally subnormal pupils at the following boarding schools: Pontville Roman Catholic Special School (16), Allerton Priory Roman Catholic Special School (4) and Dovecot Horticultural School for Girls (1).

There were 425 educationally sub-normal pupils attending the Richmond and Crown Street Day Special Schools and the special classes which were arranged for at Banks Road, Grant Road, Underlea and Fazakerley Schools.

60. The number of delicate pupils on the rolls of each of the day open-air schools at the end of the year was as follows:—

Fazakerley Open-Air School .....	124
Underlea Open-Air School.....	97
Margaret Beaven Open-Air School .....	88

A number of crippled children were also in attendance at these schools as shewn in paragraph 64.

61. Miss Shepherd, the Headmistress of the Underlea School, in her report, after referring to the satisfactory physical and educational progress, speaks of the great benefit derived from the work done by the Liverpool Physical Training College in giving the children remedial exercises.

62. At the Alder Hey Hospital School 49 children were on the rolls at the end of the year. The residential schools, Tyndwr Hall, Edward Malam and Nant-y-Coed, conducted for physically defective children in the reception areas, had 93 children in residence.

63. Tyndwr Hall was closed at the end of the year, the children being distributed amongst other suitable schools. Miss Anderson, the Headmistress, in her report, after giving details of the very considerable improvement in the health of so many of the children, states:—

“ At Christmas, 1945, Tyndwr Hall closed down as an Evacuated Residential School for physically handicapped boys. Thus ended the experiment forced upon us by the declaration of war in 1939. Six years' experience has proved, without doubt, the success of Residential Schools for all children, but more especially for handicapped children.”

64. Miss Raynes, the Headmistress of Nant-y-Coed and Edward Malam, in her report, besides describing the great benefit to the children of the Boarding Special Schools, comments upon the many evidences of the parents' appreciation of these benefits resulting in their willingness to leave the children in residence.



with spectacles, and one child was operated on for enlarged tonsils and adenoids. In addition, medical treatment was given as follows:—

Impetigo .....	94 cases.
Other skin diseases .....	55 „
Blepharitis .....	19 „
Conjunctivitis .....	24 „
Other eye diseases .....	6 „
Wax in ears .....	32 „
Otorrhoea .....	32 „
Other ear diseases .....	38 „
Cuts, abrasions, etc.....	627 „

### HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

55. The total number of blind pupils at the end of the year was 22 of whom 5 were attending the Wavertree School for the Blind, 5 the Roman Catholic School for the Blind, Brunswick Road, 4 at the Sunshine Homes, and 8 at Henshaw's School for the Blind.

56. Classes for partially sighted pupils were held in the following centres: St. Anne's C.E. School, Christian Street, Grant Road Council School, Underlea Day Open-Air School and Fazakerley Day Open-Air School. The number on the rolls at these classes at the end of the year was 57.

57. There were 129 deaf pupils and 52 partially deaf pupils in attendance at the Queensland Street School. Early in 1946 this school transferred back to its former premises in Crown Street.

58. Three children were maintained by the Authority at the Homes for Epileptics, Maghull, during 1945. There were no new admissions during the period.

59. The 36 places at the disposal of this Authority at the Torpenhow Open-Air School have been fully utilised. Delicate pupils have spent from three to six months in this special boarding school with much improvement to their general health.

As a result of the medical examinations 17 children were found to require treatment for various defects. In addition, a number of children were required to be kept under observation for such defects as tonsils, bronchitis and rickets.

The treatment facilities at the adjoining clinic were available for the children and made full use of with definite benefit to their general health. Medical treatment given was: Squint 2 cases, skin diseases 82, eye diseases 53, ear diseases 84, minor ailments such as cuts and abrasions 363.

### **NURSERY CLASSES.**

54. There are 42 classes in operation accommodating some 1,500 children between the ages of 2 and 5 years.

The Education Committee proposes to take over from the Maternity and Child Welfare Department the whole-time war-time nurseries accommodated in Infants' Departments, and in future, to run them as nursery classes for children over 2 years of age.

There is a waiting list at many of the nurseries and a large number of mothers who do not go out to work would like to have their children admitted, but there is no room for such children at present, though eventually it is hoped to provide more nursery classes to help these mothers also.

The school medical officers carried out 1,710 medical examinations of these children during the year, and again comment on the improvement in the health of the children as a result of their attendance at these classes.

Amongst the various defects discovered at the medical examinations, the most common were skin troubles, bronchitis, eye and ear diseases, and the treatment schemes at the clinics were all available for these children. Nine children who shewed evidence of squint were provided

information of the Magistrates in the Juvenile Courts at Liverpool and district, were submitted in 2,789 cases.

The Magistrates asked for special medical examinations to be carried out in 218 cases and these were undertaken by the following medical officers:—

Medical Officers to the Remand Homes.....	81
Approved Medical Officers (Ascertainment of Mental Condition).....	123
Other Medical Officers (Eye Specialists, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Ear Specialist, etc.).....	14
	<hr/>
	218
	<hr/>

(f) **School Premises.**

52. The City Engineer and Surveyor reports the following alterations and improvements which were carried out on school premises:—

Sanitary improvements .....	2 schools.
Playground repairs .....	3 „
New heating apparatus .....	6 „
Improvements and repairs to heating apparatus.....	8 „
Removal of air raid shelters .....	5 „
Conversion of air raid shelters .....	7 „
(Re-instatement of classrooms)	
Re-instatement after occupation by N.F.S., Civil Defence, First Aid Posts, etc. ....	13 „
Alterations at War-time Nurseries.....	2 „
Miscellaneous improvements, e.g., doorways, stair treads, play-sheds, etc.....	7 „

**EVERTON ROAD NURSERY SCHOOL.**

53. The average number of children on the roll for the year was 154. Priority of admission continued to be given to those children whose mothers were engaged on war work.

During the year, 149 routine medical examinations of children were carried out. Of the children examined, 6·04 per cent. were recorded as having excellent nutrition, and 93·96 per cent. as of normal nutrition, and no child was considered to be malnourished.



It was not necessary to close any school or department during the year on account of infectious disease.

The arrangements made in previous years for the inoculation against diphtheria of children attending all schools were continued. For this purpose visits were paid to 79 primary and modern schools. The total number of school children inoculated at schools was 6,770. In addition, a considerable number of children of school age were inoculated at the various immunisation clinics held throughout the city.

(c) **Vaccination.**

49. The percentage of unvaccinated children amongst the routine cases examined in 1945 was 31·0.

Since medical inspection of children was inaugurated in 1909, there has been a progressive increase in the number of unvaccinated children.

In 1909 the percentage was	6·1	In 1930 the percentage was	19·1
„ 1915 „ „ „	7·1	„ 1935 „ „ „	22·7
„ 1920 „ „ „	not available.	„ 1940 „ „ „	23·4
„ 1925 „ „ „	16·3	„ 1945 „ „ „	31·0

(d) **Employment of Pupils.**

50. During the year a total of 3,315 children (3,269 boys and 46 girls) were engaged in part-time employment. The school medical officers examined 669 children as to their fitness to undertake work before school hours and in 17 cases the undertaking of this part-time work was not recommended on medical grounds.

During the year the Sub-Committee, dealing with the licensing of children, granted 40 theatrical licences.

(e) **Children and Young Persons Act.**

51. In accordance with the arrangements made under Section 35 of the Children and Young Persons Act (1933), medical reports, for the

at Chaigeley Manor School, nr. Clitheroe. The children admitted are those whose particular circumstances and environment call for this special type of education and guidance, and before their admission they are referred by the School Medical Officer for examination by the Psychiatrist of the Notre Dame Child Guidance Clinic.

At the beginning of the year the number of Liverpool children maintained was 11, and during the course of the year 10 children were discharged or had left, whilst 2 were admitted. The number of children in residence at the end of the year was three.

### **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.**

#### **(a) Tuberculosis.**

47. At the routine inspections, which were confined to the entrants in the schools, there were discovered 6 cases of tuberculous glands and 6 cases of other forms of tuberculosis, a total of 12 cases, or .10 per cent. among the routine cases examined, being an increase of .02 per cent. compared with the previous year.

There were also seen at the inspection clinics, or as special cases at the schools, 20 definite or suspected pulmonary cases, and 31 cases of other forms of tuberculosis.

All the cases of actual or suspected tuberculosis discovered by the school medical officers were referred to the tuberculosis officers for examination. The number of references so made was 112, whilst the Tuberculosis Department supplied information with reference to 758 pupils who had been reported from other sources as possible cases of tuberculosis. Of these, 501 were new cases for the year and 511 were reported as non-tuberculous.

#### **(b) Infectious Diseases in Schools.**

48. There were 4,145 cases of infectious disease reported amongst children of school age during the year, this being a decrease of 1,819 cases compared with the previous year. Measles showed a decrease of 1,753 cases and whooping cough a decrease of 147 cases, while there was a slight increase of 44 cases in regard to scarlet fever and of 161 cases in regard to diphtheria.

children. The boy was reacting by withdrawal into a rather infantile phantasy world, alternating with marked aggression against his mother and younger sisters.

The plan of treatment included social work with the parents, individual psychotherapy and play group.

The most recent reports from school and home are most satisfactory. The boy now gets on well with his stepfather, who takes him out sometimes, and allows him to tinker with his motor bike. The mother reports that he is kind to the three younger children and affectionate with the baby. . He can be trusted now; there have been no more complaints of pilfering, and he performs errands and realises the value of money. His stammer is hardly noticeable.

#### CASE "B."

A boy of 10 years 4 months, I.Q.110, referred for truancy, "breaking and entering," and possible "inferiority complex."

This boy presented mainly an environmental problem. He felt rejected at home and seemed to be handled rather roughly. He was said to be jealous of his elder brother, and showed signs of not altogether unconscious aggression against his mother.

The plan of treatment included social work with the home, and individual treatment of the boy, with the aim of directing his good intelligence into more constructive outlets.

The case was closed after very satisfactory reports. The boy is doing well in the Scouts; he has not regressed in any way; and arrangements are now being made, at his own request, for him to have piano lessons. The family have, throughout, been most co-operative.

46. In the early part of the year, the Education Committee agreed to the maintenance of certain maladjusted children whilst in residence



On the side of the school, the change from infant to junior school usually means a much more marked difference between the bright and the duller child, with correspondingly less satisfaction for the latter.

Among home conditions leading to maladjustment certain factors recur with marked frequency. Absence of the father and inability of a young mother to cope alone with family care under the strain of war and post-war conditions, and the resulting absence of sound discipline; the effect of evacuation on family relationships; and latterly the emotional difficulties resulting on the return of an almost unknown father.

In many of these cases a large part of the treatment has fallen to the psychiatric social worker, whose skilled handling of home situations and time spent in home interviews has been well repaid. The children meanwhile have been helped to work out their tensions and anxieties in suitable play, and psychiatric interviews. Where necessary individual coaching in reading and arithmetic has also been provided.

The following two cases are typical of those treated during the year:—

#### CASE "A."

A boy of 10 years, I.Q.83, referred for pilfering and untruthfulness and for daydreaming and romancing—complaints were both from home and school—on examination at the Clinic it was found that the boy also suffered from a pronounced stammer which, according to the mother, had been first noted a year previously.

This boy's father had died when he was three years old, and his mother had remarried four years later. The stepfather was found to be distinctly unsympathetic, and the mother, though kindly, to have little insight. The handling of the boy was very unwise. His mother encouraged him to hide his misdeeds from his stepfather, and both parents gave marked preference to the younger

“ During the year 1945, 40 parents were summoned for the neglect of their children. Proceedings resulted as follows:—In five cases fines of £1 to £10 were imposed; seven parents were bound over for periods from six to twelve months and sentences of imprisonment ranging from six weeks to six months were imposed in eleven instances. Sixteen mothers were placed on probation and one case was withdrawn.”

### CHILD GUIDANCE.

45. The Director of the Notre Dame Child Guidance Clinic has submitted the following annual report:—

During the year ending 31st December, 1945, out of 153 Liverpool children of school age referred for treatment and advice, 66 (47 boys and 19 girls) were referred directly by the School Health Service, and 15 (9 boys and 6 girls) referred in the previous year were still attending for treatment.

Of these cases, 38 have been closed during the year; 21 as adjusted or much improved, and the remainder as withdrawn or closed for lack of parental co-operation after varying degrees of improvement; 16 children attended for advice only, and in January, 1946, there were 22 still attending.

It is interesting to notice that of the 66 children referred by the School Health Service last year, only 11 were of senior or secondary school age, 18 of nursery or infant school age, while 37 were of the 8-11 year age group (26 boys and 11 girls). At first sight this might appear strange, since the middle years of childhood are relatively the most stable. However, analysis of the cases shows that among the 37 junior children mentioned 24 were found to have I.Q.'s ranging between 65 and 90, and 21 to have come from fatherless, “ broken ” or unsatisfactory homes; and indeed, environmental factors operating in home or school or in both, were found to be largely responsible for the maladjustment of children in this group.

ment has been made in the general situation. Though the degree of infestation of individual cases is much less severe than formerly, on the other hand, the number of cases of dirty hands, faces, ears, etc., has increased.

Allowing for the fact that many of the mothers are working, bad housing conditions, and the difficulty of obtaining steel combs, hot water and soap, it would appear that on the part of a number of the parents there is much indifference towards personal hygiene.

43. It is now generally recognised that the School Health Service is faced with the impossible task of keeping school children free from verminous infestation because of the infestation of younger and older members of the family who are also infested and so act as reservoirs for the constant reinfestation of the school children.

It would appear, therefore, that if any real progress is to be made in raising the general standard of cleanliness families as a whole should be dealt with, as against the present patchwork remedy based on the illusion that school children only are the conveyors of infestation.

For many years now school nurses have strenuously fought with the problem, at a loss to their prestige, and it is to be hoped that with the establishment of a National Health Service a broader view with regard to verminous infestation will be taken. The establishment of a special department to deal with families as a whole, in which there is reason to suspect family infestation, is the only satisfactory way to make any further headway with this problem. Such work should not be the duty of either the Health Visitor or School Nurse.

44. The School Attendance Department have co-operated with the School Health Service in investigating cases of neglect referred to them. In particular they have assisted in securing the regular attendance of school children at the scabies clinics.

Mr. Keenan, the Superintendent of the School Attendance and Care Department, states that:—



A closer contact with parents has been made and their interest and co-operation maintained throughout which has proved most beneficial. A large number of parents attend the classes to observe treatment and they are thus able to help the children at home.

39. There is a need for more than one speech therapist in the area as is shewn by the long waiting-list for examination, and the problem of children having to travel long distances for treatment could then be solved by running clinics in outlying districts. This difficulty of distance particularly affects the younger children whose mothers cannot spare the necessary time to bring them. These children often have easily remedied defects which if not remedied in time are liable to produce nervous symptoms.

### **UNCLEANLINESS AND NEGLECT.**

40. The school nurses made 429,709 examinations of school children with regard to cleanliness, and altogether 24,172 children were found to show some evidence of verminous infection or were very dirty. In the case of 2,139 children, statutory notices were served upon the parents owing to their failure to cleanse their children after previous notification, and 1,631 children were cleansed by the parents and 508 had to be compulsorily cleansed by the staff.

The total number of attendances made at the cleansing stations during the year on account of verminous conditions was 18,924.

41. At the routine examinations in the schools 9·35 per cent. of the boys and 29·02 per cent. of the girls were found to shew evidence of infestations. Whilst these figures are a decrease on the previous year's figures of 13·9 per cent. and 34·03 per cent. respectively, it cannot be said definitely that there is a general improvement, as only entrants were examined as routine cases during 1945, and there is always a tendency for them to be kept cleaner than children in the other age groups.

42. Those nurses who have had considerable experience in dealing with cases of general uncleanliness and verminous infestation are generally of the opinion that for some years now little or no improve-

36. Mr. McFarland reports that the orthopædic scheme is working well, and that those children, suffering from orthopædic defects, who have now returned from the reception areas have clearly been well looked after whilst they have been away.

37. Mr. Dwyer reports on the efficiency of the general working of the clinics, but one of the difficulties with which he has to contend in the case of a minority of the parents is that they make no effort at all to assist in carrying out the treatment recommended. The boot and shoe problem, which is common to all, is of particular significance in the case of children suffering from orthopædic defects of the lower limbs.

### **SPEECH THERAPY.**

38. During the year, 265 children were recommended from various sources for admission to the speech classes, and of these, 64 were passed for admission. The available accommodation, however, only allowed of the admission of 59 of these children. There are still 189 children awaiting examination by the speech therapist.

At the beginning of the year there were 60 children in attendance at the class. The number who were discharged as cured was 21 whilst 33 left on account of being over age, etc.

The treatment of children with speech defects is at present carried out at St. Anne's School, Christian Street, and experience has shewn that this treatment has proved satisfactory. The arrangement of the classes has been changed so that more children suffering from defects of articulation have had individual treatment with the result that these defects have been corrected more rapidly. The advantage of this is that cases have been carried through to a satisfactory conclusion whereas formerly the children tended to become discouraged and ceased to attend after a few months.

Stammerers form two-thirds of the cases under treatment, defects of articulation forming the next largest group. Two cases of high frequency deafness, four cleft-palate cases and one case of motor aphasia are also being treated.

**TABLE 3.**  
**Cases dealt with under the Orthopædic Scheme during 1945.**

Defect	Cases seen at Surgeons' Visits.										Massage and Remedial Exercises Department.									
	No. of Cases					No. of Attendances					No. of Cases.					No. of Attendances.				
	Clinic				TOTAL.	Clinic				TOTAL.	Clinic.				TOTAL.	Clinic.				TOTAL.
	Dingle House	Walton	Everton Road	TOTAL.		Dingle House	Walton	Everton Road	TOTAL.		Dingle House.	Walton.	Everton Road.	Dingle House.		Walton.	Everton Road.			
Infantile Paralysis	7	8	17	32	10	17	26	53	5	5	11	21	78	93	236	407				
Birth Palsy ...	4	—	1	5	4	—	1	5	2	—	—	2	10	—	—	10				
Spastic Paralysis	13	12	27	52	20	18	46	84	6	4	22	32	84	32	443	559				
Rickets ...	61	49	64	174	80	66	74	220	1	3	—	4	1	25	—	26				
Talipes ...	1	10	12	23	1	18	18	37	—	3	5	8	—	86	63	149				
Spinal Curvature	5	9	9	23	12	12	18	42	4	6	7	17	49	55	134	238				
Torticollis ...	2	10	6	18	2	16	12	30	—	5	2	7	—	65	22	87				
Flat Feet ...	226	183	262	671	302	236	344	882	83	87	113	283	762	884	1190	2836				
Other deformities	47	44	48	139	65	62	67	194	14	14	19	47	174	206	164	544				
Other defects ...	133	110	139	382	135	149	172	456	25	38	47	110	193	376	455	1024				
No orthopædic defect found ...	29	22	38	89	29	22	38	89	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
TOTALS ...	528	457	623	1608	660	616	816	2092	140	165	226	531	1351	1822	2707	5880				



During the year four children were provided with artificial legs and one child with an artificial arm.

34. The Child Welfare Association assisted the parents in obtaining new apparatus, surgically-altered boots, repairs, etc., in 1,083 instances, whilst 235 pairs of boots for wearing with apparatus were supplied. The Association likewise assisted the work by supplying cod liver oil and arranging for convalescent treatment, and their visitors also made many visits to parents in the case of 278 children regarding their non-attendance at clinics.

35. The accompanying table shews, in detail, the work carried out at the clinics:—

The extension of the school leaving age to 15, and later to 16, will, if the school dental facilities are adequate, considerably close this gap, and it is gratifying to know that, in the new National Health Service, priority of treatment is proposed for such adolescents. .

31. There is, however, no arrangement for the treatment, in Liverpool, of the children attending what used to be known as the Secondary and Higher Schools. This omission is a weakness of the School Dental Service, but the dental staff is quite inadequate to undertake this additional treatment at the present time.

32. To sum up, the material is at hand and the co-operation of parents is becoming assured. One thing only is required to ensure a successful School Dental Service which cannot fail to have a pronounced and favourable effect on the well-being of the rising and future generations of children in Liverpool and that is the appointment of a dental staff that is numerically capable of dealing with the calls that will be made upon it, and the provision of clinics for the additional staff to work in.

### ORTHOPÆDIC SCHEME.

33. There were 1,608 children under supervision at the three orthopædic clinics, 716 of these being new cases, of which number 186 were seen at Walton Clinic, 274 at the Everton Road Clinic, and 256 at the Dingle House Clinic. Altogether these children made 7,972 attendances, either for examination by the surgeon or for massage or exercises, the average number of attendances per case for massage or remedial exercise being 11.1.

Out of 33 cases recommended for hospital treatment, 24 had been admitted by the end of the year.

#### Summary of Hospital Treatment, 1945.

Scoliosis; prone treatment	...	...	...	...	...	3
Correction of deformities of feet or toes	...	...	...	...	...	12
Treatment of torticollis by operation	...	...	...	...	...	5
Other operations	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other treatment	...	...	...	...	...	1
						<hr/> 24

29. The success of a scheme of conservative dental treatment for children is dependent not only upon the provision of adequate facilities but also upon the co-operation of the parents in ensuring the regular attendance of their children at the clinic. It is felt that, now that the majority of parents have come to accept this view, a corner has been turned and that, from now on, the scheme will shew a more obvious dividend in the form of healthier mouths. The work that has been put in, in the past, in the face of so much parental apathy will then have been justified. On the other hand, it must be borne in mind that, as success begets success, with the increasing appreciation of the value of regular dental treatment it will also be necessary, for the future, *pari passu*, to augment the dental staff so that the treatment which will be applied for, in increasing degree, can be promptly given. As it is, the better response to the offer of treatment on behalf of those children who were examined has resulted in the fact that less schools could be dealt with than in the preceding year and, in consequence, some children who have been regularly responsive have, owing to the shortage of staff, been affected by the extension of the interval between their opportunities for treatment to more than that period of twelve months which is generally accepted as the absolute maximum if the permanent teeth are to be preserved.

It should be recognised, therefore, that the appointment of additional dental officers to deal adequately with the present commitments of the service—quite apart from any extensions of the scheme that may be thought necessary under the new Education Act—is now a matter of urgency.

30. One of the weak points of the School Dental Service of this country has been the lack of provision of facilities for dental treatment between the time when children leave school until their eligibility (at 17 years of age) for dental benefits under the National Health Insurance Scheme. Unfortunately, this is a time of life when the permanent teeth of children, particularly the upper front teeth, seem very prone to rapid decay, if treatment is neglected. There is no doubt that much of the good work that has been done for children whilst at school is, to some extent, vitiated by lack of treatment in this interim period.



TABLE 2.

	1943	1944	1945
Number of children examined in school ... ..	51,422	72,946	73,709
Number of children requiring treatment ... ..	36,515 (71·0%)	47,418 (65·0%)	48,343 (65·5%)
Number of cases accepting treatment under the Dental Scheme ... ..	20,206 (55·3%)	24,488 (51·6%)	31,422 (64·9%)
Number of cases treated ... ..	18,723	22,747	27,083
Number of schools concerned ... ..	105	154	143

27. No additional officers were called up for service with the Armed Forces prior to the cessation of hostilities, but one of the officers thus serving was released in December.

The dental staff was, however, effectively somewhat larger than in the previous year owing to the fact that the full benefit was felt of the return to Liverpool in 1944 of those officers who had been seconded to the reception areas. Consequently, it was possible to treat 4,336 more children than in 1944, and nearly 9,000 more than in 1943.

28. The proportion of parents accepting dental treatment when advised of dental defects in their children shewed a pronounced increase during the year, attaining the highest percentage yet recorded since the commencement of the school dental service, viz., approximately 65 per cent. as compared with 51·6 per cent. in the previous year.

As was to be expected, this improvement in the numbers accepting treatment resulted in a decrease in the *proportion* of permanent teeth requiring to be extracted, owing to the greater number of children, at each school dealt with, who were able to be re-treated within a reasonable time from their previous treatment.

For the first time, therefore, it is possible to record that the number of permanent teeth that were able to be saved exceeded the number that had to be extracted through neglect.

24. At the routine examinations of the pupils which, owing to shortage of staff, were carried out only in the case of the new admissions to Primary Schools, the number found to require treatment for unhealthy tonsils or adenoids was 456, which represents 3·8 per cent. of the children examined. Although this is an increase of ·9 per cent. on last year's findings, this does not necessarily indicate an increase in the incidence, as the percentage of children requiring treatment is always higher amongst the new admissions than children at later ages.

Amongst the intermediate and leaver age groups, who were surveyed in the first place by the nurses, 1,160 were presented to the doctors, and of these 276 were found to require treatment.

In addition, 599 children were presented as special cases, and of these 294 were found to require treatment.

25. Owing to military requirements and the acute shortage of nursing staff, the operative treatment of children suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids presented many difficulties, and only 159 children were treated at Alder Hey Hospital during the year. The position has now greatly improved and children are being treated regularly at Alder Hey Hospital on two or three days each week.

The operations performed during the year were as follows:—

Tonsils only.....	46
Adenoids only .....	12
Tonsils and Adenoids .....	101
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	159
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## DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

Report by the Senior School Dental Officer, Mr. T. H. Parsons.

26. The following Table shews the work carried out under the dental scheme for children attending the Primary and Modern Secondary Schools:—

TABLE I.  
Aural Clinics.

Number of children who attended for treatment ... 1,863  
Total number of attendances at the clinics ... 6,008

Defect	Total	Dry or Healed	Im- proved or I.S.Q.	Exam. only No treatment given.	Still under treatment	Failed to complete treatment	Referred to Hospital or own Doctor	Referred to M.A.C. or other Clinics	Re- ferred to other 1
Acute Otitis Media	341	249	—	—	22	60	8	2	
Suppurating Otitis Media ...	437	193	—	41	73	123	3	3	
Chronic Suppurating Otitis Media ...	168	54	—	1	41	44	27	1	
Mastoid Cavities	10	3	—	—	1	4	1	1	
Middle Ear Deafness with Otorrhoea	One Ear 80 Both Ears	96 —	— 41	41 6	6 20	28 19	1 —	— —	
Middle Ear Deafness without Otorrhoea	One Ear 136 Both Ears	52 —	— 65	26 25	5 26	14 20	2 —	— —	
Inner Ear Deafness	One Ear 21 Both Ears	9 —	— 1	6 1	1 3	— 1	— —	— —	
Otalgia and other conditions ...	133	61	5	24	18	19	3	3	
Nose and Throat conditions ...	380	1	70	56	41	114	88	7	
TOTALS ...	1,863	561	247	165	270	446	133	17	2

Minor Operations ... 48  
Referred to Alder Hey Hospital for Mastoid Operation ... 37